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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

Records of the Government of India,

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

No. LXVI.

REPORT

ON

THE POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

RAJPOOTANA STATES

FOR 1867-68.

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COUNCIL HOUSE STREET.

1868.

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REPORT

ON

THE POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

RAJPOOTANA STATES

FOR 1867-68.

No. 317P., dated 25th July 1868.

From—Lieut.-Col. Keatinge, C. S. I., V. C., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

To—C. U. Aitchison, Esq., Offg. Secy. to Govt. of India, Foreign Dept., with G. G.

My predecessor last year reported most fully on the general condition of Rajpootana and on the Political Administration for 1865-66 and 1866-67.

2. I shall consequently make but a brief statement of what has occurred during 1867-68.

3. The Reports of the Political Agents are attached. The following are the leading points to be noticed:—

BIKANEER.

4. At the close of 1867, Major Beynon and Captain Impey met on the triple border of Jeypore, Bikaneer, and Marwar, where they succeeded in conciliating the Jodha and Bidawut Rajpoots, between whom an enmity had existed for several years past, which greatly disturbed the whole of that neighbourhood. Whilst they were thus engaged, a letter was received from the Government of India calling for a Report on the state of Shekhawatee consequent on representations made by Colonel Hervey, C. B., General Superintendent of the Thuggee and Dacoity Department.

5. In reply, in my letter No. 31J., dated 7th February, I reported that the whole western border of Shekhawatee,

with the adjoining parts of Marwar and Bikaneer, was in a disgraceful state, robbery not being confined to outlaws and unknown persons, but being by public repute the profession of communities.

6. The reason given for the failure of the administration of the different States in this tract was the impunity with which criminals escaped across the borders. I therefore considered that the most advantageous station for the officer whom I was directed to post in that neighbourhood would be some spot where the boundary of the three States converge. With this view, and bearing in mind the absence of a resident officer in Bikaneer and the far from satisfactory condition of the administration of that State, I fixed upon Shoojanghur, a town on the Bikaneer border.

7. As was to be expected, the selection of this place met in the first instance with decided objection from the Maharajah. In an ill-considered letter His Highness endeavoured to show that the establishment of an officer in his territory was opposed to the terms of the Treaty.

8. As a reward for services during the mutiny, 41 villages in the Sirsa District were conferred on the Maharajah. Ever since the transfer of these villages a series of petitions from the maafeedars and proprietors of them have poured into this Office complaining that a sum largely in excess of the amount at which jummas were fixed by the British Government has been collected from the ordinary proprietors, and that the maafeedars were irritated and annoyed by their rights being questioned and their privileges ignored.

At the request of my predecessor, the Maharajah expressed his willingness to abide by the decree of the Commissioner of Hissar. Mr. Naesmyth, the Commissioner, was good enough to undertake an investigation into the complaints preferred by the maafeedars and proprietors; his Report showed that the complainants had substantially a strong case against the Bikaneer Durbar.

The Durbar has since, by the orders of Government, conveyed in their letter No. 504, dated 16th May, been called upon to abide by the decision of the Hissar Commissioner.

9. Regarding the States of Jeysulmere, Kishenghur, and Kerowlee, I have absolutely nothing to report. I have met the Chiefs of the two latter States, but not of the former.

ULWUR.

10. No special event has occurred in this State during the year under report. The invasion of the country by Thakoor Lukhdeer Sing, with the assistance of a band collected in the Jeypore territory, was reported last year. Endeavours have been made to ascertain the injury inflicted on the Jeypore and Ulwur borders during this unfortunate affair, but without much success. This matter is noticed in full in paragraphs 37, 38, and 39, of Major Beynon's Report on Jeypore.

11. Great inconvenience is felt from the absence of any special officer responsible for the management of our relations with Ulwur, and were it not that exceedingly few international complaints are at present received from thence, there would be great difficulty in conducting the work.

12. A khillut of investiture, valued at Rupees 10,000, was bestowed by Government on the Chief.

A large number of schools are said to exist, but have not been visited by any European officer.

The Jail is kept in admirable order.

DHOLEPORE.

13. The Political Agent of Bhurtpore, in reporting on this State, values the income at about eleven lakhs and the expenditure about ten lakhs. The State debt has been reduced to about Rupees 38,000.

14. The revenue settlement made in 1864 is said to give satisfaction. Owing to long misrule, it is asserted that during the past year a great number of inhabitants have emigrated into other countries.

15. The misunderstanding between the Rana and his eldest son is said to continue; the fault is usually attributed to the son.

Captain Walter reports that the administration is well meaning, and complies with requisitions to the best of its ability.

MEYWAR.

16. The principal event which has occurred in the Durbar has been the re-appointment of Kotharee Kesree Sing as Minister, although his employment had been interdicted by Government.

As already reported, the local officers are all of opinion that Colonel Eden was misled by a conspiracy of some

Members of the Council in reporting on this person's defalcations.

I have, as directed by Government, given His Highness the Maharana an opportunity of re-opening the matter. In the meantime, the Kotharee is not acknowledged by any of the local officers.

17. Continued difficulty is felt in the apprehension of criminals from bands of dacoits who are said to inhabit the districts of Neembhera under Tonk, and Jawud Neemuch under Gwalior Districts, surrounded by the Meywar State. When the Maharana complained to me on this subject, I informed him that any specific proposal on his part for an exchange of territory with Tonk would command my best offices.

DOONGURPORE.

18. The Maharawul continues to administer this State much to the satisfaction of the Political Agent. He is anxious to extend his civil and criminal jurisdiction over his whole estate, but is greatly opposed by his Thakoors, who claim in such matters to follow the example of Oodeypore, where no movement of the sort has commenced. The Maharawul appears to be acting with discretion in the matter.

PERTABGHUR.

19. The Acting Political Agent has no personal knowledge of Pertabghur affairs, and I have not been able to visit the State. Great difficulty exists in procuring replies to references. I hope to be in a position to report more fully next year.

BANSWARRA.

20. A great deal that is most discreditable to this State has transpired during the year of report. At the close of the rains it will be necessary to depute an officer specially to report on the condition of the country.

21. Great ill-feeling has existed between the Maharawul and the Rao of Kooshulghur; the former has not scrupled to make grossly false accusations against the latter, and the Kooshulghur Rao has set up a claim to independence of Banswarra, which his antecedents do not appear to warrant, however much the weakness of the Maharawul's administration may have encouraged it.

JEYPORE.

22. In addition to the Council existing last year, four new Members have been nominated, the assembly being now called the "Royal Council of Jeypore."

The Council having been only some six months in existence, it would be premature to criticize its working.

23. With reference to the Province of Shekhawatee, the Political Agent is in a position to report that crime has diminished. I trust that the arrangements organized by the Jeypore Durbar will place matters on a more satisfactory footing in this troubled province.

If hearty co-operation is afforded by the Nazim, there is but little doubt that dacoity and other violent crime will soon materially diminish; but previous experience forbids us to hope that an official of the ordinary stamp holding this post, where opportunities for corruption are so great, will long himself remain untainted, unless to some extent under the personal supervision of a European officer; and with this view I have suggested the erection of a bungalow at Jhoonjnoo for the accommodation of the Political Agent, who might reside there some months in the year.

24. The tributary Chief of Khetree still continues to take a personal interest in the improvement of his estate.

25. The attendance at the Jeypore College seems to have fallen off in the English class, though the Persian class has increased proportionately: this I look upon as a sign of great shortsightedness in the people and in all concerned with the Jeypore educational work.

The vernacular schools in the city are stated to be 120 in number, and there are about 170 zillah schools. In the female school there are 35 pupils.

26. As regards public works, the Bhurtpore portion of the Ajmere and Agra Road is now completed.

On the Ajmere side about 15 miles of metalling remains to be done.

The entire road from Doodoo, 15 miles from Ajmere, to Agra, is now open for traffic.

The branch road to Sambhur, alluded to in last year's Report, has not yet been commenced at the close of the year.

27. The important subject of forest conservation is, I am glad to hear, for the first time occupying the attention of the Maharajah.

28. The practice of in-door jail labour and a system of management similar to that obtaining in our jails, is reported to have been introduced.

The sanitation of the jail and control of prisoners has been placed under the supervision of an European officer,

and the obligation of providing proper accommodation and subsistence for the prisoners has been apparently recognized by the Durbar.

29. Eight new dispensaries have been sanctioned. The Returns appended show the amount of work performed by the International Court of Vakeels and the number of schools and Post Offices in the districts.

MARWAR.

30. The most striking events with reference to the Marwar Agency are the death of the Dewan Hajee Mahomed Khan and the settlement of the Ghanerao succession case.

The Dewan was murdered at Pokur whilst sleeping in his tent. As yet no efficient successor has been nominated.

31. The case of the Ghanerao succession, which was last year brought to the notice of Government, has been finally disposed of, as reported in my letter No. 62, dated 7th March last; the succession fee was fixed by mutual agreement at the rate paid by the last Thakoor, *viz.*, Rupees 61,000.

32. The long standing feud existing between the Jodhas of Marwar and the Bidawuts of Bikaneer, which greatly increased the violent crime on the north-eastern border of Marwar, has, as already reported, been adjusted by the exertions of Captain Impey and Major Beynon.

33. A large number of the Thakoors of Marwar represented to me verbally the insecurity of the country and the want of settled government. Acting on my advice, they personally addressed the Maharajah, but, beyond giving them an audience, he has as yet made no promise or reply.

34. The condition of this State is greatly to be deplored. The Maharajah nominally carries on the government, but from his known incapacity for business, little or nothing is done. The army is disorganized, and the Durbar cannot enforce obedience. Under such circumstances, the poor are on all sides oppressed.

The weakness and cupidity of the Durbar on the one hand, and the insubordination of the Thakoors on the other, have gone so far that any serious event, any unusual obstacle, might bring the administration of Marwar to a dead lock and necessitate special measures for its release.

BHURTPORE.

Income and expenditure.

35. The total income of the State for the year under review is Rupees 26,36,918, being an increase over last of Rupees 7,854.

The total expenditure amounts to Rupees 26,19,620, leaving a balance of Rupees 17,298. The cash balance at the close of last year was Rupees 12,74,141.

The Returns of trade and customs show a decrease in the amount of imports and a very large increase in the amount of exports.

36. The actual amount of salt sold this year is less than that of the year preceding by some 933 tons, but the income derived from this source of revenue exceeds that of last year by Rupees 3,776, clearly indicating that the prevailing rates at which salt is sold are higher than that of the previous year. This the Political Agent accounts for by the present out-turn of salt being less than that of last year, but the demand brisker.

37. The Returns appended to the Political Agent's Report contain information of the work performed by the various Courts of the State for the Sumbut year 1923, and also give the result of a general census made in 1867 of the inhabitants of each pergunnah and the number of houses. The total number of villages "khalsa" and "maafee," with the amount at which they are valued, is also shown.

38. In the Public Works Department, the Political Agent has lost the services of Lieutenant Home; the supervision of the works is now in the hands of Pundit Shumboonath, and as the Regency Council seem anxious to test his qualifications for the post, the Political Agent has not pressed on the Durbar the proposal I made to the young Maharajah to secure the services of an Uncovenanted Civil Engineer. I am not sanguine that the irrigation works projected by Lieutenant Home can be carried through without the supervision of an efficient officer.

39. The number of tehseelee schools continue the same as last year, though there is a considerable falling off in the number of pupils: this the Political Agent attributes to the employment of the best pupils in various departments which have always been looked on by the officials in the Durbar as their own special privileges. There is an increase in the number of village schools of 20 over last year, and another girls' school has been established.

The general supervision of all the schools is under the charge of Sub-Assistant Surgeon Bholanath Dass, who is mentioned in favourable terms by the Political Agent.

HARROWTEE AGENCY—TONK.

40. The most important event connected with this Agency has been the deposition of the Nawab of Tonk and his succession by his son, Ibrahim Ali Khan, which was necessitated by the former's connection with the painful tragedy at the Tonk capital. Government is in full possession of the facts connected with this case; it would be superfluous, therefore, to recapitulate them. An officer has been appointed temporarily to assist the new administration.

Lieutenant J. Blair has been nominated to the post; he works under the orders of the Political Agent, Harrowtee.

41. The Report of the former officer gives a very detailed account of the working of the new administration and of the affairs of the State.

For the conduct of affairs of the State a Regency Council was formed, consisting of five members, under the presidency of Sahibzada Ibadoola Khan, granduncle of the present Nawab.

The President has no executive charge, but maintains a general supervision over all departments.

42. The Revenue Administration is placed under Sahibzada Oobadoola Khan; the Judicial Civil Court under Moonshee Zoor Ali; the Judicial Criminal Court under Mahomed Wuzeer Khan—all sentences of this officer exceeding seven years' imprisonment and Rupees 500 fine are submitted to the Council for confirmation.

The principality consists of six detached estates, in each of which certain officers are maintained entrusted with limited powers of jurisdiction. All special appeals from their decisions lie with the Civil and Criminal Members of the Regency Council. Appeals from the Civil and Criminal Courts are heard by the Regency Council.

43. The finances of this State are very seriously embarrassed.

The cash balance in the Treasury for the Fuslee year 1274, which terminated last June, stood at Rupees 1,77,535.

The regular budget estimate for the current year leaves a balance of income over expenditure of Rupees 75,460.

The estimate for 1868-69 shows a balance of income over expenditure of Rupees 1,84,611.

The debts of the State will stand at the close of the current year at the high figure of Rupees 14,36,000; this sum is distributed amongst a large number of creditors.

BOONDEE.

44. The same passive resistance to all measures of improvement is still evinced by the Chief of the State. The Political Agent reports that even ordinary business is transacted with the greatest difficulty.

The improvement of the building hitherto used as a jail is the only reform the Political Agent can record.

KOTAH.

45. The demise of the late Chief's Ranee has released an estate valued at Rupees 60,000, which will ease the finances. The cost of the army is still considered too heavy by the Political Agent. A better feeling has lately existed between the Durbar and the Kotree Chiefs of Harrowtee.

The business of the State is reported to suffer from the continued intemperance of the Chief and from affairs being left too much in the hands of a single Minister.

JHALLAWAR.

46. This State is creditably administered. His Highness does most of his own work. The services of an experienced Native Deputy Collector have been applied for, with a view to carrying out a revenue settlement. His Highness has also expressed to the Political Agent a desire for the introduction of a system for the administration of justice, based on the Civil and Criminal Procedures of our Courts.

47. Altogether the Report of the Political Agent on the condition of Jhallawar is most favourable, and speaks well for its future prospects.

DEOLEE STATION.

48. For the first time since the formation of the cantonment this station was visited by cholera.

MEENA KHERAR DISTRICTS.

49. The Political Agent reports that the condition of the predatory tribes residing in the Meena Kherar has improved. No instance of infanticide during the year has been brought to notice.

50. The Returns appended show the working of the Harrowtee International Court of Vakeels.

SEROHIE.

51. A Civil and Criminal Court has, during the last 12 months, been established, and a code of simple rules for the guidance of the former has been prepared. The working of these Courts cannot as yet be considered satisfactory; this may be mainly attributed to the undue interference exercised by the Chief whilst cases are still undecided.

52. A school has been established at the capital, but the attendance does not seem large. In the districts, one building for a school has been completed, and three others are in the course of construction.

53. The income of the State from all sources for Sumbut 1923 (1866-67) amounted to Rupees 1,40,867, or Rupees 14,824 more than the preceding year. There is a balance for the period above stated of expenditure over receipts amounting to Rupees 14,934.

54. The Political Superintendent reports that no raids and excesses have been committed by the lawless tribe of Grassia during the past 12 months. This may be regarded as the beneficial result of a visit paid to the Grassia tracts by the Political Superintendent and the Chief, and the generally increased attention that has been given to this portion of the State.

55. The practice of "samadh," or self-immolation by burial, seems to have prevailed to some extent in Serohie, and was a custom common among lepers.

It has now been declared criminal. Any person assisting in, or cognizant of, it, and not preventing it, is pronounced liable to imprisonment for 10 years.

Judicial.

56. The number of cases decided by the International Courts during 1867 were , and the compensation awarded was Rupees .

57. During 1867, 14 registered dacoits were committed for trial by the Assistant Superintendent of Thuggee and Dacoity.

Financial.

58. In financial matters there is no change to report.

Education.

59. I regret to be able to record nothing on this subject. The Political Agents have made statements of the number of schools they know to exist in the States under their Agencies, but no means exist for testing the value of the instruction imparted, or the accuracy of the Returns made.

As stated in my letter No. 262P., dated 11th June 1868, I consider a systematic inspection of schools in Native States a political necessity.

Post Office—Telegraph.

60. These departments are not under the Agency supervision, and will be reported upon by their departmental officers.

Military.

61. In addition to the full information recorded by Colonel Eden last year, there is little to report.

The difficulty in procuring recruits still continues in the Erinpoora Force.

Men can be got at Deolee, but Colonel MacDonald complains that they are not the stamp of men he formerly procured.

At Kherwarra, the Meywar Bheel Corps can command a large number of men, but this is only in consequence of the exclusively local character of the service the corps is called upon to perform. Were this service at all extended, I have every reason to believe that the same difficulties in recruiting would be experienced as at Erinpoora.

62. I have seen all three corps, and consider that they do credit to their Commandants.

Public Works.

63. No change has been made during the year 1867-68 in the Divisions of Public Works under the Rajpootana Agency. But from the 1st December 1867 a separate Superintending Engineer was appointed for theRajpootan a Circle, which was thus divided from the Central India Circle of Superintendency, and that officer was also appointed to be Secretary to the Agent, Governor General, Rajpootana States, in the Public Works Department.

The two imperial divisions composing this circle are—

I.—The Nusseerabad Division comprising the Military Stations of Nusseerabad, Ajmere, Neemuch, Deolee, and Erinpoora.

II.—The third Division of the Mhow and Nusseerabad Road, which comprises the following roads:—

1*st*.—Ajmere and Jeypore Road to the boundary of the Kishenghur and Jeypore States.

2*nd*.—The Mhow and Nusseerabad Road from the confines of the Central India Agency to Ajmere.

3*rd*.—The road from Nusseerabad to Burr, including the Burr Pass, through the Aravulli Hills, about 46 miles.

The two Local Divisions are, 1*st*, the Jeypore Division; and 2*nd*, the Meywar, or Oodeypore Division.

These lie within Foreign States, and the only Imperial expenditure incurred upon them is the subsidy paid to the Jeypore State of 20 per cent. on its expenditure on the line of road passing through the Jeypore territory and constructed out of funds provided by the Jeypore Durbar.

Military—Accommodation for Troops.

NUSSEERABAD.

61. In dealing with this subject the work done will be treated in the order in which it was provided for in the budget of 1867-68.

Item No. 1.—Improvements to Lall Diggee.

The amount of sanctioned estimate for this work was Rupees 7,358. The work was commenced in 1867, and Rupees 2,500 expended on it previous to 31st March 1867.

The expenditure in 1867-68 has been Rupees 4,795, making the total expenditure on the work from first to last Rupees 7,295. The work was completed in June 1867.

Item No. 2.—Water supply at Nusseerabad. Budget provision, Rupees 15,000.

Nothing was done in reference to this project. The water at Nusseerabad is brackish and unfit for consumption. The drinking water is all brought from the Dilwarra spring, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles distant from Nusseerabad.

A comprehensive scheme for bringing water to the station from a distance was some years ago matured by the Executive Engineer. The cost was estimated at some $3\frac{1}{2}$

lakhs of Rupees; but nothing has been done to carry out the object, and matters remain in the same state as before. The whole amount of the budget allotment was appropriated for other works.

Recently, the Government of India, on the recommendation of the Agent, Governor General, sanctioned the appointment of Mr. Williamson for this special purpose; and the question will, no doubt, be finally brought forward when that gentleman has surveyed the country with the special object of water supply in view.

The amount spent in previous years was Rupees 1,05,359, leaving a balance of the estimate Rupees 5,41,510.

Item No. 4.—Barracks for nine Companies of European Infantry.

Amount of sanctioned estimate, Rupees 6,46,869. Budget provision, Rupees 2,50,000.

Of the 2½ lakhs allotted for the year 1867-68, Rupees 2,09,359 were expended, and Rupees 40,641 were re-appropriated for other purposes.

During the year, the progress has been as follows:—

No. 1. Half Company Barrack on Left Flank.

The upper story has been added, and the barrack is ready for occupation.

No. 1. Full Company Barrack on Right Flank.

The upper story of one-half is now nearly ready for roofing, the materials for which are all on the spot. The upper floor of the remaining half has been added; doors and windows all ready.

No. 2. Half Company Barrack, Left Flank.
„ 5. Ditto ditto Right ditto.
„ 6. Ditto ditto ditto.

These were commenced this year. The superstructure of the lower story is ready. The arrival of girders is awaited.

No. 3. Half Company Barrack, Right Flank.
„ 4. Ditto ditto ditto.

Same as above. The foundations were laid in 1866-67. They are now approaching completion. The pent roofing has to be put on, for which all the wood work is ready. The buildings will probably be handed over before the rains.

No. 2. Full Company Barrack, Right Flank.

The lower stories have been completed, and superstructure of nearly half the upper story is also done. The wood work of the roof is ready.

Item No. 5.—Married Soldiers' quarters, R. A. Amount of sanctioned estimate, Rupees 58,487. Budget provision, Rupees 45,000.

Amount expended during the year Rupees 43,349. About Rupees 4,500 will suffice to complete this work. The budget estimate of 1868-69 provides Rupees 13,500, so that there will be a saving in the provision, of Rupees 9,000, and on the estimate, of Rupees 9,638.

The present state of this work is one block of 10 quarters completed. The second block is ready for the roof, the wood work for which is ready, as are also the doors and windows.

Item No. 6.—Latrines for Native Troops. Budget provision, Rupees 6,000.

The amount of the provision in the budget was made over to the Cantonment Committee on authority of Circular No. 101, of 14th November 1866.

Item No. 7.—Improvements to Horse Hospital, R. A. Budget provision, Rupees 5,000.

This has been completed.

Item No. 8.—Glazed doors and windows in temporary barrack, European Infantry. Budget provision, Rupees 9,000.

Completed.

Item No. 9.—European Infantry quarter guard and cells. Budget provision, Rupees 18,000.

Completed.

Item No. 10.—European Infantry Hospital. Budget provision, Rupees 27,000.

Nothing has been done in this case during the year, as the estimate was not sanctioned. It has only lately been submitted. Of the budget provision, Rupees 15,000 was spent on purchase of timber for the division generally.

Item No. 11.—Royal Artillery quarter guard and cells. Budget provision, Rupees 10,000.

This was completed in March 1868.

Item No. 12.—Additions and alterations to Library and School-room. Budget provision, Rupees 5,000.

Completed.

Item No. 26.—Post Office. Budget provision, Rupees 4,000.

Completed.

Works not in the Budget.

Additions and alterations to Staff Serjeants' quarters.

Completed, Rupees 3,249.

Covered passages to married quarters, European Infantry. — Completed, Rupees 7,661.

NEEMUCH.

65. Of the amount provided in the budget, Rupees 85,175 were re-appropriated for other works during the year; and of the balance, *viz.*, Rupees 1,50,825, Rupees 1,40,931 were expended during the year. The foundations and plinths of five barracks are completed; the superstructure of one barrack has been raised up to 10 feet of upper story: the lower stories of two others are nearly completed, and of a 4th about 10 feet high. The wash-houses have progressed in a similar proportion.

Item No. 15.—Barracks for a wing of European Infantry. Budget provision, Rupees 2,36,000.

Item No. 16.—Practice Butt for Royal Artillery. Budget provision, Rupees 2,500. — Completed in March 1868.

Item No. 17.—Rifle Range for Infantry. Budget provision, Rupees 3,000. — This work was not considered necessary.

Item No. 19.—Improvement to Ordnance Depôt. Budget provision, Rupees 9,000. — Completed in January 1868.

Item No. 20.—Commissariat Slaughter-yard. Budget provision, Rupees 9,000. — Completed in March 1868.

Item No. 21.—Enclosure of Ordnance Depôt. Budget provision, Rupees 3,000. — Completed in March 1868.

The following works, not provided for in the budget, have also been executed during the year.

Engineer's Store-yard. — Completed in March 1868 for Rupees 5,543.

Additions and alterations to European Infantry Barracks. — Completed in August 1867 for Rupees 14,220.

Temporary quarter guard for Royal Artillery. — Completed in March 1868, Rupees 4,475.

Item No. 36.—Trunk Line of Road through Neemuch. Provision, Rupees 7,935. — This had not been completed at end of official year.

Additions and alterations to Staff Serjeants' quarters. — Completed in July 1867. Rupees 6,815 spent during 1867-68.

AJMERE.

Item No. 13.—Barrack for one Company. Budget provision, Rupees 50,000.

66. This was not commenced, and the amount was re-appropriated for purchase of sal timber.

Item No. 14.—Improvements to existing buildings. Budget provision, Rupees 7,000.

Work completed in a satisfactory manner.

This is completed.

Protestant Church.

The expenditure during former year was Rupees 1,294, and during 1867-68, Rupees 5,002.

The estimate provides for a building on the plan of the Bareilly College. The foundation plinth and about one-fourth superstructure completed.

Ajmere Collegiate School, Rupees 17,000 from the North-Western Provinces.

Temporary barrack for 20 men at Taragurh.

Completed in August 1867 at a cost of Rupees 6,346.

DEOLEE.

67. Work not completed. Expenditure during the year was Rupees 5,217, and in previous year Rupees 2,213. This would have been completed within the year, but the delay is due to the failure of the contractor.

Item No. 3.—Roads and drains. Budget provision, Rupees 3,000.

Re-appropriated from Item No. 15, Rupees 7,719.

Item No. 23.—Agency out-offices. Budget provision, Rupees 5,000.

Completed. Expenditure during the year Rupees 3,512.

ERINPOORA.

68. Nothing was done during the year. The Officer Commanding stopped the work, as he desired more accommodation than the estimate provided.

Item No. 18.—Hospital Servants' quarters. Budget provision, Rupees 2,500.

Roads and drains.

Expended in 1867-68 Rupees 3,000.

Minor Works.

69. The expenditure on these has been Rupees 33,000, spent on 181 separate minor works; all completed within the year.

General Remarks.

70. All work is done by contract, and the quality of the work at all stations is very fair, except at Neemuch, where good bricks cannot be made. Stone, however, is now being used, and it is of good quality.

3RD DIVISION.

Mhow and Nusseerabad Road.

71. Of the amount of budget provision, Rupees 3,000 were transferred to minor works. The balance, Rupees 89,000, has all been expended during the year.

Items Nos. 29, 30, 31, 32.—Budget provision, Rupees 92,000.

Of the Mhow and Nusseerabad Road in Ajmere District (27 miles in length) the earthwork of 12 miles has been executed. The masonry for the first six miles are completed, except one bridge in the 2nd mile. The metal has been collected for 26 miles and stacked at side of road. Trees have been planted, and an inspection bungalow at Bandurwarra has been completed.

72. To this provision Rupees 20,000 were added from Item No. 29. The amount spent during the year 1867-68 has been Rupees 44,198. The work has progressed very well.

Item No. 31.—Nusseerabad and Ajmere Road. Budget provision, Rupees 20,000.

73. An inspection bungalow has been completed at Beawur. The estimate for the Burr Pass, which has lately been submitted, is not yet sanctioned.

Item No. 32.—Nusseerabad and Deesa Road. Budget provision, Rupees 22,000.

Mount Aboo.

74. Completed; see separate letter to the Government of India, No. 309S., dated 2nd June 1868.

Item No. 25.—Residency. Budget provision, Rupees 25,000.

Items Nos. 34 and 35.—Dâk Bungalows at Anadra and Aboo. Completed.

Political Superintendent of Serohie's Office. Estimate, Rupees 6,835. Completed.

Agency Hospital. Estimate, Rupees 6,757. Completed.

Agra and Ajmere Road.

75. The northern part of Rajpootana has been joined to Agra by an admirable road, constructed principally at the cost of the States of Jeypore and Bhurtpore. The administration of these States deserves very great credit for what has been accomplished.

Oodeypore Roads.

76. Southern Rajpootana draws all its foreign trade from Bombay through Goozerat, and both politically and

commercially good lines of communication between Ahmedabad and the cities of Ajmere, Jodhpore, Oodeypore, and Neemuch are essential. Nothing, however, can be done until the direction of the proposed Rajpootana Railway is finally determined.

Conclusion.

77. As in other portions of India under Native rule with which I am acquainted, so in the greater part of Rajpootana, the relations between the Chiefs and their nobles are becoming more and more difficult, and indicate that, at no very distant period, they will cause complications which will call for special measures.

78. The liability to sudden attack from the outside, which made the good will of each party necessary to the other, no longer exists, and our rules prohibit the old custom of a noble transferring his allegiance to another Chief when the enmity with his own lord has become so inveterate that he ceases to hope for reconciliation.

79. Before our advent, a really weak administration could not long exist; a Chief who could not control his nobles soon ceased to occupy the throne. This is now changed, and the consequence has been a general weakening of the authority of Native Chiefs. The violent means by which, in by-gone days, they maintained their power would now cost them their thrones; and, as a rule, they have taken no steps towards substituting well organized and respected judicial tribunals for the fire and sword with which they formerly enforced obedience. The administration of most of the States in Rajpootana is infinitely milder now than it ever was before; but, on the other hand, it was never at any previous time placed in close contact with a foreign civilization which recognizes the rights of private individuals to an extent that, if enforced in Native States, would revolutionize all the traditional relations between the Chief and his subjects. The example of civil freedom enjoyed by all classes within British territory is exciting feelings of independence in the breasts of a large portion of the population who reside under Native rule, whilst the Native Governments usually recognize no necessity for progress or reform.

We should be prepared for the inevitable conflict of interests which is thus arising, and which may be expected to assume formidable dimensions.

80. The British Government recognizes 18 States in Rajpootana, and the estate of Lawa, lately separated from

Tonk, must now be added to the number. We shall do well to bear steadily in mind that over an area of probably one-half and, perhaps, two-thirds of this country these recognized Chieftains possess no real power.

81. The nobles are practically far more independent of their Chiefs than the latter are of the British Government. There are few great nobles who will permit a revenue or police officer of their Chiefs to enter their estates except as a mere traveller, who will respond to any calls for returns or statistics, or will acknowledge his civil or criminal jurisdiction. One great link is thus missing from the chain of authority which, to ensure good order, should necessarily connect the Government with every grade of the people.

82. Absence of responsibility, such as I have above described, is, as must be expected, abused by the great majority of the nobles. Numbers of them maintain bands of plunderers who, in return for the protection given, are always ready for any emergent service. Trade is trammelled by every conceivable exaction by which a small present profit can be made, and the cultivators and poorer classes are degraded to the condition of serfs.

83. Stagnant as no doubt the condition of society is in Native States, there are Chiefs who desire reform, but the opposition they meet from their nobles is so serious that they can seldom accomplish much.

84. I am convinced that the ancient feudal system of the Rajpoots cannot exist in close contact with the civilization from the West which now surrounds. it. Before long it will, I apprehend, be necessary for Government to recognize openly this difficulty, to collect reliable information on the subject, and to promulgate general rules regarding the extent to which it expects nobles in their different degrees to render obedience to their Chiefs. At present neither the Chiefs, the nobles, nor even the Political staff, have a clear understanding on this subject.

85. I do not consider that my tenure of office in Rajpootana has been sufficiently long to give weight to any recommendations I should make regarding the individual services of the officers employed in the province. I may mention, however, that I have received generally zealous assistance and co-operation from them. Most of these officers have constant hard work to perform, and do it conscientiously under circumstances which would admit of much neglect before their shortcomings became apparent to higher authority.

DHOLEPORE REPORT.

No. 22-10P., dated 13th April 1868.

From—Captain C. K. M. Walter, Political Agent, Bhurtpore.

To—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Keatinge, C. S. I., V. C., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

I have the honor to submit a brief Report on the administration of the Dholepore State for the past year.

2. In my last year's Report I had only a few notes to guide me in writing my Report, and it appears, from enquiries made subsequent to the despatch of my letter, that the debt, which I then put at 2½ lakhs of Rupees, was considerably under that sum. From Returns furnished to me by the Dholepore Durbar, I gather that, at the close of the Sumbut year 1922, the actual debt of the State was Rupees 74,654; during the past Sumbut year, 1923, a further sum of Rupees 37,000 was paid off, leaving the debt at the close of Sumbut 1923 to be only Rupees 37,654.

3. The estimated receipts for the present year are put down at Rupees 10,94,378-11-3, and the total expenditure at Rupees 9,83,680-15: this will leave a surplus of income over expenditure of Rupees 1,10,697-12-3; so I trust I shall be able to report next year that the State is clear of debt.

4. The work of the State has been satisfactorily carried on throughout the past year by Rao Gungadhur Rao, assisted by Moonshee Pirbhoo Lall and others: lately the Rana himself has taken more interest in the government of his country, which is a satisfactory proof that the advice which I have constantly been giving him on this subject has not been without effect.

5. The Revenue Settlement made in 1864 is progressing favourably, and the Government demands seem to be paid with regularity. A greater amount of land has come under cultivation since the settlement was made, and I am of opinion that the people are more prosperous since the settlement was made than they were before.

6. The area, as given by the Durbar officials of the Dholepore State, is 1,250 square miles, whilst the population, as shown by a census taken last year, is 192,382: this gives 153·90 souls to each square mile, which is very much less than that of the neighbouring State of Bhurtpore; but it must be borne in mind that a great portion of the Dholepore State consists of hills and ravines, and that the population in these parts is very sparse indeed. Moreover, owing to a long period of misrule, it is not unnatural to suppose that a good many of the inhabitants have left the country to seek for a livelihood elsewhere; the number of villages, including hamlets, is only 520.

7. The estimated expenditure on the army, which includes expenditure on forts, is Rupees 3,20,998-6-6: the troops continue about the same in number as last year, and are mainly employed in Police duties in the State.

8. A dispensary was established at the sudder station of Dholepore, as reported by me last year, but the Rana has not been fortunate

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enough to secure the services of a good Native Doctor. His Highness has requested me to try and procure one for him, which I hope to do. When this is done, Monthly Returns will be sent in, as from other dispensaries in Rajpootana, to the Superintendent of these useful institutions.

9. After a long procrastination the Rana consented at the close of last year to enter into a Treaty with the British Government for the mutual surrender, under certain stipulations, of offenders taking refuge in territory other than that in which the crime was committed. One copy of the Treaty has been duly ratified by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council, and made over to the Dholepore Durbar by me, whilst another copy, bearing the Rana's seal and signature, has been transmitted through you to the Foreign Office.

10. The health of the Dholepore State throughout the year under report has been good; no epidemic of any kind has occurred: the rainfall was, I believe, above the average, and the crops, both spring and autumn, have been, I am told, above the average.

11. I regret that I am unable to report anything favourable of the Rana's only son: the feud between his father and himself still exists, and will only, I fear, terminate with the death of one or the other of them. The grandson is a fine, sharp little boy, and, if properly brought up, will, I hope, turn out well.

12. The Mahomedan woman of whom I have frequently written still holds great influence over the Rana, but I am inclined to think that she attempts to interfere less in State affairs than she hitherto did, and, in consequence, they progress more favourably.

13. The Rana himself visited you when you were at Bhurtpore in the early part of this year, and I believe you expressed your opinion that His Highness was improved in every way since you first made his acquaintance some years ago. As I stated last year, His Highness is most anxious to meet in all things the wishes of the British Government, to which I believe him to be firmly attached.

MEYWAR AGENCY REPORT.

No. 59-14P., dated 11th May 1868.

From—Major A. M. Mackenzie, Officiating Political Agent, Meywar.

To—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Keatinge, C. S. I., V. C., Govr. Genl.'s Agent, Rajpootana.

In submitting to you the Annual Report on the States under this Agency, I have the honor to state that the several Durbars have evinced their usual reluctance to furnish information of the nature called for in your Office circular No. 1096, of the 9th September last, paragraph 2, Clauses I. and II.; the subjects, moreover, demand much careful enquiry. I have, therefore, thought it advisable to leave them for a special supplementary report, a course of which I trust you will approve as preferable to such imperfect information as I am at present in a position to afford.

2. Since the submission of the last Report on Meywar, an important change has been made by the Maharana in the administration of the State, Pundit Luchmun Rao, the working member of the Government as it was constituted on His Highness's accession to its independent control, having been set aside in December last, when the young Chief desired to appoint Kotharee Kesree Singh to the office of Prime Minister. At the present time there is ostensibly no Minister, and strange as it may appear in a large State like Meywar, Kesree Singh is the only man who is admitted by the popular voice to be fitted for that position. As this subject has been so recently under report, and is so shortly to receive your personal consideration, it is not necessary that I should do more than cursorily allude to it now.

3. I regret to say that mail and other highway robberies continue to occur to an extent that, at the first view, would appear to reflect much discredit on the Government. I am by no means prepared to assert that the police arrangements are on a satisfactory footing, but there can be no doubt that most of the robberies which have recently occurred may with justice be attributed to the bands of dacoits who infest the districts of Neembhera under Tonk and Jawud Neemuch under Gwalior, whence they make raids into Meywar. Colonel Nixon, in his Report of the 21st February 1867, brought this subject prominently to notice, but I am not aware that any steps have been taken to diminish the evil so much complained of by this Durbar. In all the cases which have come under my notice, the Maharana has evinced a most praiseworthy desire to carry out the measures suggested to him for the better protection of travellers and property. Indeed, I may add that, during the few months I have officiated as Political Agent, I have found the Maharana in all matters of business clear-sighted and intelligent. He is ever ready and willing to be guided by the dictates of reason, and shows an earnest desire to conduct the government of his State with credit to himself, and satisfactorily to our Government; but he has many

difficulties to contend with, amongst the greatest of which is the almost total absence of honest and able counsellors to aid him in his endeavours, or support him in any measures of reform, either suggested by the Political Agent, or prompted by his own good instincts.

4. Rawut Runjeet Singh of Deogurh died in September last. He was one of the first nobles of Meywar, and, as a member of the Council of Regency, took prominent part in the proceedings which brought about the disgrace of Kotharee Kesree Singh. He has been succeeded by his son, Kishen Singh, a young man of about 25 years of age.

5. The Durbar School for boys and girls continues to be satisfactorily conducted. The average attendance of boys throughout the past year has been 583, of whom a small portion, about 30, learn English. The average number of girls attending daily has been 51.

6. The dispensary has been much frequented by patients, and its success reflects considerable credit on Doctor Cunningham, the Agency Surgeon (now on leave to Europe on medical certificate), who takes the greatest interest in it.

7. The total rain-fall during the past year was 23 inches 5 cents at Kherwarah. No register was kept at Oodeypore, but your instructions for the future have been duly attended to.

8. The rain crops of the past year were unusually good, and the spring crops have been equal to the general average.

9. The following are the Post Offices in Meywar:—Oodeypore, Kherwarah, Kotrah, Chittore, Bheelwara, and Shapoora. The line from Ahmedabad to Neemuch runs through Doongurpore territory, from Ruttonpore to Kherwarah, a distance of 24 miles; from Kherwarah to Neemuch, a distance of 135 miles, it runs through Meywar territory, excepting where it passes through the districts of Neembhera of Tonk and Jawud Neemuch of Gwalior. The line from Kherwarah to Kotrah runs through Meywar territory for 60 miles. The line from Neemuch to Nusseerabad runs through about 84 miles of Meywar territory. This line passes through Chittore, Humeergurh, Bheelwara, and Bunera of Meywar.

10. The Neemuch and Oodeypore Road was completed as far as Mugurwass, a distance of 40 miles, two years ago. Plans and estimates for carrying it on to Neembhera have been revised and re-submitted to the Superintending Engineer during the past year. The survey of the Meywar and Tonk Sections of the Neemuch and Nusseerabad Road, a distance of 95 miles, has been completed and the line marked out. Plans and estimates for the same are now being prepared by Captain Taylor, the Executive Engineer, for submission to the Superintending Engineer.

DOONGURPORE.

11. There is little of importance to report regarding this State. The Maharawul, Oodey Singh, maintains his government with ability and much credit to himself and his Minister, Shaw Neehal Chund;

but he experiences much difficulty in carrying out some of his measures for the better government of his territory from the opposition of a few of his Thakoors, who endeavour, by every means in their power, to resist his authority, and in the case of Thakoors Abhey Singh and Roognath Singh of Gainjee (the former of whom was at one time Kamdar), to throw discredit on the present administration. The Maharawul has it in view to take the civil and criminal jurisdiction of his State into his own hands,—a measure which, if gradually and judiciously carried out, would check the evil that arises from the irresponsible powers at present arrogated to himself by every petty jageerdar, and should, therefore, I am of opinion, have our countenance and support.

PERTABGHUR.

12. This State is so far from my own permanent head-quarters at Kherwarah, and has come so little under notice during the four months I have officiated as Political Agent, that I have nothing to report regarding it, except that the Maharawul, Oodey Singh, seems disposed to rule his territory in a satisfactory manner. He has introduced a Civil and Criminal Court and other reforms, which should tend to a better form of Government, and a dispensary has been established, which, from the Returns, seems to be satisfactorily conducted.

BANSWARA.

13. My recent Reports, and those of Majors Mackeson and Hayward, have informed you of much that is discreditable to the Banswara Durbar. It is unquestionably the worst governed State under this Agency; but as a closer supervision is now being exercised over it, possibly matters may improve. The ill-feeling that has existed between the Rawul and his feudatory, the Rao of Kooshulghur, is now of long standing, and has at length attained that point when the adoption of measures for an adjustment of their differences has become an imperative necessity. The claim to independence raised by the Rao of Kooshulghur has been shown to be utterly without foundation, but it is a question of grave importance whether the Chief of this petty State has the means to coerce, and keep in subjection, his powerful feudatory without material support on our part; and the charge brought against the Rao, which has recently been investigated and proved to be a disgraceful fabrication, raises serious doubts as to the expediency of affording aid of any kind to so unscrupulous a ruler. The case is one of much difficulty, but your mature political experience will doubtless enable you to arrive at a satisfactory settlement. I should mention that in the year 1855 an enquiry took place regarding a dispute between the Rao of Kooshulghur and the Rajah of Rutlam, when I believe it was decided that the Rao of Kooshulghur was a noble of the Banswara State, and not of Rutlam; but owing to the records of this Office having been destroyed at Neemuch during the outbreak of 1857, I am unable to speak precisely on this point; the proceedings, however, will doubtless be forthcoming in your Office, and will probably throw much light on the present controversy.

14. On receipt of the accounts from the States under this Agency, they shall be duly submitted.

Memorandum of Cases laid before the International Court of Vakeels, Meywar, from 1st April 1867 to 31st March 1868.

Cases admitted during the year	186
Cases disposed of during the year	185
Remaining on the 1st April 1868 ...	1

Out of the 185 cases disposed of, decrees have been given in 30 cases, and 155 were dismissed.

Cases appealed against were 7.

(Sd.) A. M. MACKENZIE, *Major,*
Offg. Poltl. Agent, Meywar.

JEYPORE AGENCY REPORT.

No. 75-59G., dated 7th May 1868.

From—Major W. H. Beynon, Political Agent, Jeypore.

To—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Keatinge, C. S. I., V. C., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

I have the honor to forward a Report of the affairs of this State for the year 1867-68.

2. My Report of last year, No. 51-58A., dated the 30th March 1867, entered fully into all particulars respecting this State, so that there remains but little for me to notice in the present one, so few have been the changes.

3. I mentioned in my last year's Report the arrangements the Maharajah had made for carrying on the administration of this principality after the death of the late Prime Minister, Sheodeen, and that four (4) officials had been nominated to assist His Highness in the Government.

This arrangement does not appear to have worked satisfactorily, but from what cause does not transpire; however, with the commencement of the official year, in September last, the Maharajah added four (4) members to those who already held office, His Highness being President; and a Secretary was also appointed to record the proceedings and assist in the general working of this assembly, which was named "The Royal Council of Jeypore."

4. With a view to show the importance of the change, this Council was inaugurated with all due pomp and ceremony, a special Durbar being held for the occasion; and each member was duly sworn in to do all in his power to perform the work entrusted to him with honesty and justice, to promote the interests of the Raj generally, the improvement of the revenues and resources of the country, and the amelioration of the condition of the people. The firing of a Royal salute concluded the ceremony.

5. The inauguration of this new Council was not viewed in a favourable light by the old officials and the people generally. It was at once condemned as an innovation on the old established institutions, and a mode of Government which could not last.

The Council having only been in existence some six months, it is, perhaps, too soon to pass judgment upon its working; it cannot be denied, however, but that the change is for the better, and that its success hitherto has been greater than was anticipated. It is to be hoped that the Royal Council will ere long prove a real benefit to the country.

6. The Maharajah, I consider, deserves the greatest credit for the reform he has introduced, and the liberal spirit in which he has, of his own accord, sought the advice of his officials and encouraged his hereditary Chiefs to take a part in the discussion of national affairs, instead of the despotic Government which has hitherto existed.

7. This year I have experienced the same difficulty which I complained of in my last year's Report, of receiving anything like reliable

or complete statistical information from the Durbar. The information which I have been furnished with this year is not only meagre, but, what is worse, of the most doubtful character, from the too common practice of the Durbar officials here, as well as in Native States generally, to misrepresent and conceal the true condition of the affairs of the State.

By the Durbar's account the net income of the State for 1867 is put down at Rupees 39,65,225, against an expenditure of Rupees 38,11,780; while from memoranda made by me during my recent tour in the districts, and from the fact that both the spring and rain harvests are acknowledged to have been better than average ones, I should say that the receipts of the State have at any rate been as much as they were for the preceding year, *viz.*, 50 lakhs.

The expenditure might be safely estimated at 36 to 37 lakhs.

8. The general health of the territory for the year under review has been on the whole unfavourable. Besides the cholera epidemic, which was so general throughout the whole of the North-West during the months of April, May, and June, this State suffered very considerably from a severe visitation of small-pox, which prevailed in the districts during the early part of the year.

Unfortunately, no Mortality Returns have been collected by the Durbar; I am unable, therefore, to furnish any information either as to the number of epidemical casualties or the rate of mortality compared with that of former years: this latter, however, is believed to be very large.

9. The action observed by the Durbar during these trying periods, and especially during the cholera epidemic, was most praiseworthy and creditable.

Measures of sanitation were promptly and successfully adopted, and every possible precaution taken to prevent the importation and dissemination of the disease, while the sick had their diseases treated and their wants duly cared for by a judicious and ample disposition of medical aid and necessaries throughout the infected and threatened localities of the State. But for these timely measures of the Durbar, the results would have been much more calamitous than they actually were.

10. The number of townships and villages in the State is represented to be 5,849. Of these, 1,810 are khalsa, 1,433 belonging to Thakoors and Mamladars; the balance, 2,606, coming under the head of Inam, Endowments, Charity, &c.

11. I have endeavoured, but unsuccessfully, to obtain a classified list of the Thakoors of the State, giving the particulars called for in the 2nd paragraph of your circular letter No. 1096, dated the 9th September last.

Possibly, the Durbar may be unable to furnish the information. I am inclined, however, to impute my failure more to the strong objection which Native Chiefs have, as a rule, to furnish us with any facts, but more especially connected with the relative standing of their subordinate Chiefs, which they fancy might be taken as a reference, or viewed in the light of a precedent, in the disposal of questions which might hereafter arise either regarding them, or the State generally.

SHEKAWATEE.

12. The Shekawatee country has at times furnished such formidable marauders, that it has become a custom to impute all excesses to Shekawatee, and the most noted Thakoors of this locality who have been in outlawry and subsequently returned and settled down in their respective homes years ago are still constanly named as being implicated as a convenient cloak for all descriptions of bad characters, no matter to which State they may really belong.

13. During the last cold season I visited all the principal Chiefs of this locality, and assembled them all at Jhoonjnoo, the head-quarters of the Government.

I remonstrated with them on the excesses which the greater part of the population are addicted to, and exhorted them to curb these evil spirits,—that in future they would be held personally responsible for any of their subjects who were found to be engaged in dacoity or other lawless crimes; and at my suggestion the Maharajah issued orders to the Nazim, or Governor, of the province to take written agreements from each of the Chiefs that they would be responsible for the good conduct of their subjects.

14. But the root of the disorder in Shekawatee and the adjoining States of Marwar and Bikaneer lies too deep to be reached by merely temporary arrangements. The records in your Office will show that the people of this country, situated as it is at a distance from the capital, have from the earliest times been robbers and addicted to the most cruel and worst of crimes; that they carry on their depredations at long distances from their homes, to which they return by rapid marches, and, to screen themselves, share their plunder with those who give them protection; and this asylum is but too frequently given by their own Chiefs.

The facility, too, of evading all pursuit by the assistance which is rendered by the adjoining States into which these robbers can take refuge, renders the Native Government unable to carry out any measures that it may adopt for suppressing the disorder.

Moreover, the asylum given, and the reluctance shown, by the officials to cordial co-operation with each other, and to the mutual surrender of the robbers, increases the difficulty.

15. This Durbar has exerted itself lately to introduce a better state of affairs in Shekawatee, and I have perceived a marked difference in the amount of crime this year to what it was even when I joined this Agency four years ago.

16. The arrangements which have now been made for the permanent location of a Political Officer at Soojanghur will no doubt in a short time be productive of the desired results in this vicinity; and the Maharajah having issued instructions to the Durbar officials and Police authorities, as well as to the regular troops attached to the Nazim of Shekawatee, to render the officer in charge all the aid he may require in the Jeypore territory, shows his willingness and anxiety to co-operate in bringing about a more satisfactory state of affairs in this quarter than has hitherto existed.

KHETREE.

17. The gross receipts of Khetree and its dependencies for the current year are estimated at Rupees 3,55,815. This is a slight improvement on last year, but, I am informed, by no means so favourable as it would have been had the seasons been even ordinarily good ones.

18. In, perhaps, no other part of the whole of the Jeypore State are the revenue collections so precarious and uncertain as they are in a very large portion of the Khetree territory. The sandy nature of the soil and the physical peculiarities of Shekawatee generally render irrigation, as practised in the more favoured parts of the State, next to an impossibility, and consequently leave the zemindars and the lessees of the farms in a great measure dependent on the contingencies of the rainy seasons; and from this very cause, I believe the revenues of a great many of the Khetree farmers are derived almost exclusively from the khareef harvest.

19. The year under review is said to have been a particularly unpropitious one for the zemindar. Besides the injurious drought, which prevailed to a large extent when rain was most needed, still further injury was caused by a most destructive hail-storm, which visited the territory just as the crops were ripening in the month of September last.

20. The effect of these misfortunes would have been most ruinous to the people had not the Chief, with a liberality worthy of all praise, extended a ready and helping hand to carry them through their difficulties. This, however, could not be done without heavy personal sacrifices, and such as, I fear, every Chief would not care to make for the benefit of his subjects. Special leases on the most easy terms were at once drawn out in lieu of existing ones, ten and in some instances as much as 15 per cent. being remitted from the regular assessments; due precaution being taken to secure a proportionate share of the indulgence to both landlord and tenant, as well as to other co-sufferers by the calamity. These remissions aggregated some Rupees 8,500, and, but for which, it is fully believed the revenue of the State would at least have reached the sum of Rupees 3,65,000.

21. The misfortune I have above referred to was of no ordinary character, and just such an emergency as, perhaps, above all others, would fairly test the discernment and the administrative tact of a ruler.

Futteh Singh, I am happy to report, proved himself fully equal to the occasion, behaving throughout with a wisdom and generosity which do him the greatest credit, and which furnish another instance of those wise strokes of policy by which he has endeared himself to his subjects and accomplished so much that is beneficial both to the State and the people.

22. The gross expenditure of the State is put down at Rupees 3,52,902, against Rupees 3,55,580 for the previous year, or a decrease of Rupees 2,678.

23. Of the more important items of increased expenditure which appear in the Returns furnished to me, is a charge of Rupees 15,591 for works of public utility, such as Educational, Medical, and Public Works, against Rupees 11,000 expended on this account in the preceding year.

24. With this judicious liberality for the extension of works of usefulness, it is, at the same time, no less gratifying to perceive a corresponding effort to retrench where saving might be advantageously carried out. In the Commissariat Department alone, by the introduction of a better system of management and control, a saving of Rupees 2,000 has been effected, while throughout the whole of the branches of the State economy and prudence appear to have been very fairly exercised.

25. The Police arrangements appear to be very efficient. The whole force consists of one Native Superintendent, 105 horsemen, and 193 footmen, in all 299.

With its head-quarters at Khetree, the force is distributed throughout the territory in divisions and detachments varying in strength according to the requirements of particular localities.

The best proof of the efficiency of the Police is the sensible diminution of crime, at one time so very rife amongst the Meena portion of the Khetree and Kot Pootlee population. In dacoity and other violent crimes especially, a very important change for the better has taken place during late years; and if only similar efforts were made in the cause by the neighbouring Chiefs of Shekawatee, we might hope to see crime of this description reduced to its lowest possible limits in a short time.

26. Since the submission of my last Report on Khetree, two additional schools have been established—an English one at Kote, and a vernacular one at Chirawa. There are now in all five schools, with an average attendance of some 230 boys. They are taught English, Persian, Oordoo, and Sanscrit, the standard being similar to that of our own schools in the North-Western Provinces.

27. Every endeavour appears to have been made to overcome the difficulties which, as a general rule, obstruct the progress of education in these parts, by awarding scholarships and suitable prizes at the periodical examinations, which are invariably attended by the Chief himself, while incentives are held out by the bestowal of State appointments and other employment on the more deserving class of the passed students. Five such appointments are already held by persons educated at these schools.

28. Female education has not yet been introduced. The Rajah is, however, adopting measures with a view to surmount the obstacles which the Brahmins and other prejudiced castes are disposed to put in its way; and he has promised to inform me of the result as soon as it has been ascertained.

29. The Charitable Dispensary and Hospitals of Khetree continue to flourish, and to afford relief to the numbers who flock to them from all quarters. During the recent cholera epidemic in the Khetree territory these institutions were most invaluable in dispensing medical aid and comforts to the sick. So successfully were arrangements conducted and measures of sanitation enforced, that the number of deaths from cholera to cases treated was not more than 20 per cent.

30. The Courts of Justice also appear to be admirably conducted, and productive of considerable good. They are administered on much the same principle as obtains in our own provinces—the "Indian Penal

Code," modified to suit the peculiarities of the people, being taken as the guide in the disposal of all criminal cases.

In the dispensation of civil justice, the Code of Laws in force in the non-regulation provinces has been followed, as being the simpler and more suitable of the kind. The Limitation Act has also been put into force, of course with a corresponding modification.

31. The number of criminal cases disposed of during the year was 613; the number remaining unsettled at the close of the year being 346. Of the cases disposed of, 27 were for heinous offences and the more important crimes. There were in all 98 appeals, 38 of which were entertained, and 60 thrown out by the Appellate Court. There were 127 persons sentenced to imprisonment; 13 for periods ranging between three and five years, 28 between one and two years, and the remainder for periods under one year.

32. The sum collected from fines levied in criminal suits was Rupees 763. The exact proportion of the awards to claims cannot very well be ascertained, the compensation granted for property lost, &c., being in many instances given in kind.

33. The number of civil suits adjudicated during the year was 278: 59 of these required the confirmation of the Chief, in 27 the judgments were confirmed, while in the remainder the awards were either modified or altogether disapproved.

There were in all 85 appeals, 57 of which were dismissed, and 28 in which the decisions of the lower Court were reversed. The Court has also executed as many as 43 decrees, 15 by enforcement of payment in the ordinary way, 12 by attachment, 5 by imprisonment at the instance of the plaintiffs, and the remainder by compromise and amicable settlement.

34. A more commodious Jail has been recently built by the Rajah, in which as many as 50 inmates can be accommodated. The average number of prisoners is 36.

They appear to be properly fed, clothed, and cared for, and are chiefly employed in the construction and repairs of the roads.

SEEKUR. BUSSAO. PATUN.

35. Of the other principal Chiefships in Shekawatee, I have nothing more to communicate than appeared in my last Report. The Seekur State has, however, exerted itself and succeeded in keeping its country in a state of tranquillity which is deserving of credit to Thakoor Mokund Singh, the manager during the present boy's minority, and he has always evinced a readiness to co-operate cordially with the border States of Marwar and Bikaneer in bringing about a better state of matters on this border. Mokund Singh will, I am sure, fulfil his promise to co-operate with the troops and render all the assistance in his power to the Political Officer now deputed to Soojangurh.

ULWUR.—LUCKDHERE SINGH'S CASE.

36. My Report for the preceding year brings this case down to the termination of general hostilities on the Jeypore and Ulwur frontier, and the deputation of Captain Roberts, Assistant Agent, Governor General, to

enquire into and report on the claims of the respective Durbars arising out of Luckdhere Singh's proceedings on the border.

The amount of the Ulwur claims was laid at Rupees 3,99,136-15-6; those of the Jeypore Durbar at some Rupees 2,36,206-7, being damages for 111 raids said to have been committed by Ulwur troops, and in which it was asserted that 90 villages had been more or less plundered and destroyed.

37. The correspondence, as noted in the margin, which has passed between your Office and this Agency, furnishes full particulars of the circumstances attending the enquiry, which extended over some 10 months; I do not therefore consider it desirable to enter into the question in all its bearings in the present Report.

No. 106-33, dated 15th June 1867.
„ 114-81, „ 24th June 1867.
„ 139-95, „ 17th July 1867.
„ 146-100, „ 25th July 1867.
„ 188-128, „ 19th October 1867.
„ 200-139, „ 31st October 1867.
„ 207-67, „ 7th November 1867.
„ 211-145, „ 14th November 1867.
„ 213-70 „ 18th November 1867.

It will be sufficient to remark that, on my being associated with Captain Roberts after my return from leave in November last, the enquiry was suddenly brought to a close by the joint application of the Durbars concerned to stay proceedings in the Ulwur suits, and dispose of the evidence and adjudicate in the cases as they then stood, considering that the opportunity was a very favourable one, if not for effecting an amicable adjustment of the question, at least for terminating a discussion which had already been most unprofitably extended, and was fast sowing the seeds of heart-burnings and discontent, more especially in the border localities, where, in fact, signs of fresh reprisals had already begun to manifest themselves; the proposition, therefore, to close the proceedings received my ready support, and was finally approved by you.

38. This having so far disposed of the Ulwur suits, the investigation into the Jeypore claims, which had not yet been commenced with, was at a later period rendered unnecessary by the Maharajah's consent to abandon his counterclaims against Ulwur if he were spared the annoyance which this long-contested dispute had caused him. These circumstances, with the fact that the incomplete nature of the Ulwur claims and the pardon granted to the principal offender (Luckdhere Singh) precluded the award of compensation to the Ulwur Durbar, necessarily closed the enquiry and resulted in an award to that effect, as recorded in the proceedings covering your letter to this Office No. 37, dated the 1st February 1868, and communicated to the Jeypore and Ulwur Chiefs.

39. The unsettled aspect of affairs, to which I have adverted in the 37th paragraph of this Report, was not, fortunately, of long duration, and the reprisals, I am glad to state, were confined to a few instances of an unimportant character. They possess no important features, and I have proposed that they be disposed of in the usual manner by the Jeypore International Court of Vakeels, *vide* my letter to your address No. 49-7J., dated the 4th ultimo.

40. I have since addressed the Jeypore Durbar, urging the adoption of efficient measures for the restoration of peace, and its earnest co-operation for the infusion of a more friendly and neighbourly feeling

on the frontier; and a similar course having been observed by you with regard to the Ulwur Chief, I have every hope that matters will now assume a more promising complexion, and that we have heard the last of this long-standing and vexatious dispute.

Education.

41. My last Report contained an outline of the support education had received with this State, and the annexed Return, marked A., will show the number of schools which exist in Jeypore and in the districts, together with the number of scholars.

The class for the education of Thakoors' sons during the past year, I am sorry to say, has not been well attended, and the progress made very unsatisfactory. I have in my former Report remarked that the Rajpoot Chiefs keep away from pride and a dislike to be brought under school discipline, which requires their regular attendance.

Thakoor Gobind Singh of Chomoo and a few others still continue to study at their homes.

42. The Chomoo Chief has also within the past year established a school at his ancestral town, Chomoo. I visited the school during my last tour, and was very much pleased to find a class of some 45 boys, who were being taught English and Oordoo; and, for the few months they had been at work, had made very fair progress in their studies.

43. The attendance at the Jeypore College has fallen off in the English Class considerably, there being only 142 against an average attendance of 182 last year, while the Persian and Oordoo has proportionately increased. There has been, however, real and marked progress in the English Department. In the higher class not only have more difficult books been introduced and read with greater facility, but the students have also passed from the mere parrot knowledge which is so unsatisfactory, and show by their intelligent and thoughtful answers to questions put to them that they really understand and appreciate what they read. One of the students in the 1st Class passed the Matriculate Examination for the Calcutta University at the Ajmere Government College, making the 5th who has done so from the Jeypore College within the last three years.

44. The vernacular schools in the city continue the same, *viz.*, 120 schools, and the attendance 3,059.

45. In the 85th paragraph of my last Report I mentioned that the Maharajah had it in contemplation to establish schools in the districts; and by the Returns now furnished to me, I am glad to see that there are now 170 schools in the zillahs, with an attendance of 4,022 pupils.

I have examined one or two of these schools. They are not yet supplied with trained teachers, and cannot, therefore, be expected to be as useful as they otherwise would be; but I trust that having brought the matter to notice, some arrangement will soon be made to supply the deficiency.

School of Arts.

46. The School of Arts was formally opened by you in January last, and can scarcely as yet be said to have emerged from its infancy.

The branches taught are carpentry, plain and ornamental; carving in wood, bone, and ivory; blacksmith's work, plain and ornamental; pottery, Native and European; coach-building and upholstery; drawing and book-binding.

There are seven teachers and 25 pupils.

47. A course of lectures are being delivered twice a week in Philosophy and Pneumatics by Dr. Valentine, and in Mechanics by Lieutenant Jacob. These lectures are remarkably well attended by the more advanced students of the college, as well as by the people of the city. The Maharajah has also given encouragement to these lectures by his attendance.

Female School.

48. The Female School has made good progress during the past year.

The services of an experienced teacher from Calcutta having been obtained, in May last she entered upon her duties, and since that time the school has made a great advance.

There are 35 pupils on the rolls, of whom about 30 are in regular attendance. These are dividedin to three classes; the 1st class numbering five pupils, who can read fluently in Hindee, and write it. The 2nd class consists of six pupils, who are in the 1st reading book (Hindee). Both these classes are also learning geography, and their needle-work is remarkably good. The 3rd class comprises the younger scholars and those most recently joined; they are as yet only beginning to read and to write.

Many of the pupils who have joined, and among them several of the most promising, have left in consequence of marriage; but this is a drawback that must be expected.

49. Though for so large a city as Jeypore the number of scholars is but small, yet when the difficulties in the way, and especially the strong prejudices of the people against female education, are taken into consideration, it is encouraging to see even this attendance, more particularly as the numbers are slowly but visibly increasing.

Public Works.

50. That portion of the Agra and Ajmere Road on the Bhurtpore border which was unfinished on the submission of my last year's Report has been completed, and the whole of this section has been opened for traffic.

51. On the Ajmere side the whole of the kutcha work has been finished as far as the Kishengurh border, and the metalling from Jeypore to Doodoo. About 15 miles of metalling now only remain to be done. The bridges and culverts on this section are in progress, and it is expected that the whole distance to the Kishengurh border will be completed in the course of the present year. By sloping the approaches where the culverts have not yet been built, the road has been made available for traffic as far as Doodoo, so that there is now a first class metalled road running through the whole length of the Jeypore territory to the Bhurtpore border, 125 miles, and thence to Agra, 70 miles, or a

total of 195 miles open to the public. A Government mail cart and a carriage dâk are now established between Agra and Jeypore, as well as a bullock train, since the road was opened.

52. The probability of a rail-road passing through Rajpootana sooner or later, and consequently the curtailed usefulness of this road, has induced this Durbar to abandon for the present the idea of bridging the larger rivers.

Two only of these, however, the Dhoond at Kanowta and the Bandee at Nasroda, offer any impediment to traffic, and it is proposed to construct a causeway over the passages with slab-stones, in two rows, clamped together with iron fastenings and anchored down. This arrangement, it is believed, will answer the purpose, and be both cheap and durable.

Branch Road to Sambher.

53. This road, to which a reference is made in my last year's Report, has not yet been commenced with, but arrangements will be made for doing so as soon as other more important works and internal improvements which the Durbar have at present in hand are completed.

54. The construction of a church and two Imperial Post Offices, one at Jeypore, and the other at Mowah, is contemplated. Plans and estimates for these have already been prepared and submitted to the proper authorities for necessary sanction, &c.

Civil Works.

55. The more important of these works which have been undertaken and finished during the year are—a travellers' bungalow at Jeypore; workshops for the new Jail; barracks and practice room for the Maharajah's band; barracks for sepoys; besides several other works of minor importance which I need not particularize here.

56. The paving and widening of the principal thoroughfares of the city are steadily progressing, and as soon as they are finished, it is proposed to make similar improvements in the drainage, &c., of the side and cross-streets.

57. The attention of the Executive Engineer has been for some time engaged in the preparation of a scheme for supplying the city of Jeypore with fresh water,—a want which is most materially felt by the citizens. Several projects have been suggested by Lieutenant Jacob, and he is now engaged in preparing plans and estimates of those considered most feasible, with a view to their submission to the Durbar for the consideration and orders of His Highness the Maharajah.

58. Making every allowance for the many disadvantages and difficulties, so to speak, constitutionally peculiar to Native States in the prosecution of public works of this description, I consider that, on the whole, the progress in this department has been highly satisfactory and creditable to the officer in charge. The difficulties I more particularly refer to are of no ordinary character, and Lieutenant Jacob, in alluding to them in his Report, observes as follows :—

> "Anything connected with the land is looked upon with suspicion in the first instance.

"Some consider making roads only the preliminary measures to annexation, and they do all they can to thwart its progress by refusing to supply labour and material, and sending complaints to the Durbar which in many cases are either frivolous or untrue.

"The Thakoors and others say that they cannot spare carts or men without detriment to their lands, and as it will not pay to import labour, I am obliged to do the best I can with the means at my disposal—about 250 men, women, and children, who have thrown in their lot with the road and live in temporary huts on the works."

I can fully appreciate the force of the above remarks, and I am only surprised that, surrounded with so many impediments and against so much opposition, he should have accomplished so much as he has. This opposition, however, does not proceed from the Maharajah, nor is the Durbar directly to blame, but there are many interested individuals who, for their own ends, will constantly try and put obstacles and difficulties in the way. When these circumstances are brought to the notice of His Highness, he at once adopts measures for rectifying them.

Forest Conservation.

59. The very important subject of forest conservation has also the attention of the Maharajah, as the want of a constant and cheap supply of superior timber for building, and of the inferior descriptions for fuel, is being severely felt within this territory; in fact, there is no timber now to be had in any quantity nearer than Agra or Delhi, and the cost of landing it here is attended with great expense. His Highness has it in contemplation to entertain a regular establishment for this department, with a view to the preservation of trees, and of planting the many descriptions of jungle-wood in waste land, as the nature of the soil might suggest.

Railway through Rajpootana.

60. The hesitation of this Durbar to the gratuitous surrender of property located on the lands ceded to the Railway Company, and to which allusion was made in my last Report, has, I am happy to state, been since overcome.

The Maharajah has now consented to withdraw the whole of the conditions under which he had previously proposed to meet the scheme, and which threatened to impede the undertaking as far at least as this State was concerned, and to concede all the points required by the Government of India and the Railway Company, reserving all special questions for consideration on their respective merits, as they may arise; and in this respect His Highness has been assured of having every consideration paid to the interests of his State, and to the proposals he may desire to bring forward on the subject.

Central Jail.

61. Within the last two months, Mr. Williams, who was formerly employed as Overseer in the Agra Jail, has been entertained by the

Durbar for the purpose of introducing in-door labour on the same system as obtains in our jails. This is now being done, and the greater number of the prisoners are employed in learning useful trades. The annexed Table, marked B., furnished by the Durbar, gives the number of prisoners in the jail and the terms of imprisonment.

62. Dr. Valentine, the Maharajah's medical adviser, has been appointed Superintendent of the Central as well as of the District Jails and the Sanitary Department.

63. The medical charge of the Jail Hospital continues, as hitherto, in the hands of the officer in medical charge of the Political Agency.

Medical Institutions.

64. As I have already stated in this Report, the mortality of the districts for the past year has not been ascertainable. The casualties of the city, however, appear to have been pretty carefully recorded, and it is estimated that the number of deaths in the city, from all causes, during the year, was 6,025, or at the rate of 40·16 per thousand per annum, assuming the population of the city to be 1,50,000. This is certainly a very high rate for a city like Jeypore, the climate of which is allowed to be equal to, if not better than, most of the towns in Upper India. The main cause of it is believed to be defective sanitation; and several measures, such as the construction of latrines in and outside the city, and the introduction of the dry-earth system, have been suggested to the Durbar, with a view to more healthy results.

These are now under the consideration of the Native Government, and the Maharajah's medical adviser, Dr. Valentine, has been requested to draw up a plan for introducing and establishing measures for the better sanitation of the city and neighbourhood.

Dispensaries.

65. From the fact that the Medical Returns of the Durbar are submitted half-yearly, on the 1st January and 1st July, the following statistical Statements are necessarily confined to the 6 months ending on the 31st December 1867.

66. The total number of out-patients treated at the city and Branch Dispensaries during the half year—

Was			5,980
Of these were Cured	5,603		
Relieved	21		
Ceased to attend... ...	77		
Died	13		
Remained	266	=	5,980
The number of in-patients was			95
Of which were Cured	66		
Relieved	6		
Absconded	1		
Incurable	2		
Died	13		
Remained	7	=	95

The percentage of deaths to treated, it will be perceived, was 13·68, a high rate under ordinary circumstances, but not so when it is taken into consideration that as many as eight of the fatal cases were brought into Hospital in a state of *articulo mortis*, and when medical appliances could be of little avail.

67. The principal diseases treated were fevers, diarrhœa, syphilis, ulcers, and skin diseases.

68. The average cost of each diet for the half year was one anna and six pies (0-1-6), and that of medicines (Europe and Bazar) for the in and out-patients, one anna and seven pies each (0-1-7).

Midwifery Hospital.

69. The total number of cases treated in this Hospital during the six months—

Was				59
Of these were Cured		46		
Discharged		3		
Transferred		1		
Died		2		
Remaining		7	=	59

There were, besides, 63 out-patients, all of whom were cured.

Vaccination.

70. The total number of vaccinations in the city and districts during the half year—

Was				6,166
Viz., Successful	4,789			
Unsuccessful	682			
Doubtful	695	=	6,166	

or a percentage of 77·66 of successful cases. The work was performed by an establishment consisting of one Native Superintendent, five Vaccinators, and two Students. There has been a considerable falling off in the amount of work performed compared with former periods; this is due, however, to the total suspension of operations during the prevalence of cholera, and the employment of the operators in the treatment of that disease in the infected localities of the State.

Jail Hospital.

71. The Report of this institution is less favourable than it has been in previous years, a large increase in cases of obstinate diarrhœa and bowel-complaint having raised the rate of mortality to 10·74 against 6·21 and 7·48 for the two half years immediately preceding. Dr. Burr attributes this chiefly to an insufficiency of food, an overcrowding in the Kotwalli Jail, and a tendency to the same in the new jail. In the Kotwalli Jail the number of cubic feet of air per man is as low as 176·14, while in the new jail the measurement has, from an increase in the number of inmates and other causes, been reduced from 500 to 326 cubic feet.

72. A more liberal scale of diet, similar to what obtains in our own jails, has already received the sanction of the Durbar, and now that the sanitation of the jail and the control of the prisoners have been placed in the hands of an European officer, as intimated in the 62nd paragraph of this Report, I fully expect to receive a much more favourable account of this institution for the future.

Branch Dispensaries.

73. Eight (8) new dispensaries have been sanctioned at the following large and important towns:—*Jhoonjnoo, Sambher, Doodoo, Dowsa, Mowah, Chatsoo, Hindown,* and *Mhadapore.* As soon as the Native Doctors studying at Agra are reported qualified by Dr. Playfair, they will be sent to take charge of these places with a suitable establishment, and be furnished with medicines.

74. The young Thakoor of Chomoo has also established a dispensary at Chomoo, and several of the Shekawatee Chiefs have promised to have a dispensary at each of their capitals; being guided in their laudable intentions by the example set them by the Maharajah of Jeypore.

Medical School.

75. The only important change to be noticed in these institutions during the year under report is the closing of the Medical School, which, as you are aware, took place on the 1st March last.

The institution had been in existence since 1861, when it was established by the Maharajah, and placed under the immediate superintendence of the Agency Surgeon, Dr. Burr, and under whose management it has ever since continued.

76. The correspondence which has eventuated in the abolition of the school is a lengthy one, and originates as far back as November 1866, when, certain facts having attracted the attention of the Government of India in Dr. Burr's Report for 1865 (the first Annual Report submitted since the opening of the school), the Agent, Governor General, was directed to ascertain and report the opinion of the Maharajah in respect to its success, as well as to the working of the institution generally.

The costliness of the system appears to have induced this step on the part of Government, Dr. Burr's Report having shown that the education of each student had, at an average, cost the Maharajah something over Rupees 500 a year.

77. The late Colonel Eden, in forwarding to me the correspondence which directed the enquiry, suggested that, instead of maintaining such an expensive school, the Durbar might find it as advantageous, if not more so, to send a few lads to the Calcutta College, where medical instruction was not only cheaper, but far superior to what His Highness could expect to receive from the more limited means at his capital. The whole question was placed before the Maharajah in the fullest form, leaving him to judge for himself in the matter.

78. In the month of May last I received his reply, intimating that, as he now felt convinced that the school had failed in its object, he should be happy to take advantage of the more economical means which the College at Calcutta appeared to afford, when Dr. Ewart, the

Principal, was written to on the subject. Dr. Ewart was strongly averse to the proposition, and went as far even as to address himself to the Government of India, urging it to discountenance and oppose the measure. This induced the Government to consult the Inspector General of Hospitals, North-Western Provinces, on the subject, and finally resulted in a further reference to the Maharajah, when two things were proposed to him, *viz.*—

1*st.*—The enlargement of the school, so as to admit of results more commensurate with the large outlay expended upon it.

2*nd.*—The abolition of the school, and the transfer of the students to Agra or Calcutta.

79. His Highness approved of the latter course, remarking that, while his views had from the first favoured it, circumstances which had since transpired, and the unfavourable mention made of his school by Dr. Murray in his memorandum to the Government of India dated the 21st October 1867, had not only confirmed his wishes, but had made him more anxious than ever to avail himself of the arrangements which had been so considerately urged upon him by our Government.

The Maharajah's decision having met the approval of Government, the medical school, as I have already stated, was formally closed on the 1st March.

80. Considering the great distance of Calcutta from Jeypore, and the objections which many would have to study for three years so far away from home, where both the climate and the habits of the people are so different from their own, the Maharajah has given the preference to the Agra College, to which, of course, similar objections cannot be raised; and arrangements have already been entered into with the Principal, Dr. Playfair, for receiving the scholars of the late Jeypore School, as already reported to you in my letter dated the 3rd ultimo, No. 45-40G.

International Court of Vakeels.

81. The annexed Statements, marked C. and D., exhibit respectively the working of the Punchayet Court and the nature of the cases disposed of by it during the year. These, however, require a word or two of explanation. They are not of themselves any criterion of the actual amount of crime committed in the State; if they were, the results which they exhibit would be far from satisfactory; the number of cases instituted being 129 against 89 for 1866, and 122 for the year immediately preceding.

These figures, however, represent only the cases which have been brought to the notice of the Court, while there may, or may not, have been others disposed of by the Native Government, and of which no intimation was received in this Office; the value, therefore, of these Returns, in a statistical point of view at least, is lost.

82. Under all the circumstances, I think we have reason to congratulate ourselves on the continued diminution of crime in the Jeypore State; while mail robberies, once one of the most important evils we had to contend against, may now almost be numbered with the things that were, only one instance, and that an unimportant one, having occurred during the past year, compared with 4 in 1866, and 9 and 6

respectively in the two years immediately preceding. I attribute these favourable results to the improved police system which now obtains in this State; to increased vigilance and earnestness on the part of the Native Government for the suppression of crime, but more particularly with regard to mail robberies; to the salutary influence exerted by the recent Resolution of our Government to hold Native States responsible for the safe transit of our mails through their territories.

Meteorological Observations.

83. The enclosed Statement, marked E., shows the meteorological observations and rain-fall at Jeypore during 1867, as far as it was found practicable to record them. The rain-fall, it will be perceived, is only given from the month of August. Next year, now that arrangements have been made for recording these observations, I hope to be able to furnish them in a more complete and useful form.

Postal Department.

84. I append a list* of the Post Offices in tne Jeypore territory. During the year under review, one new imperial Post Office has been opened, experimentally, at Singhana, and it was proposed to establish four similar ones in other parts of Jeypore; but the extension was objected to by the Durbar, as reported to you in my letter No. 22-19G., dated the 7th February last. I consider that the Post Offices have, on the whole, been conducted as satisfactorily as could be expected, and the best proof of their popularity is the large increase in the receipts of letter and banghy postage during the year under notice, *viz.*, Rupees 33,970 against Rupees 28,853 for 1866, an increase of nearly 18 per cent.

* Marked F.

Conclusion.

85. In bringing this Report to a close, I cannot do better than endorse the favourable opinion of the Maharajah, expressed in my last year's Report No. 51-38G.A., dated 30th March 1867.

His Highness still continues to carry on and supervise the administration, aided, as I have already shown, by a Council of eight members. The chief and most trusted, as well as the most able and enlightened of this body, is Nawab Mahomed Fyz Ali Khan. He ably supports the Maharajah in all the reforms and improvements His Highness may consider it advisable to introduce for the better government of the country.

86. With respect to the relations of this Durbar towards the British Government, I have much pleasure in stating that they are of the most satisfactory and frank character, and His Highness the Maharajah is a true friend of Her Majesty's Government, and endeavours in all his acts to obtain the approbation and good opinion of the Viceroy and Governor General.

A.

Return showing the number of Schools within the Jeypore territory supported by the Jeypore Durbar.

	Number of Schools.				Number of Scholars.				Remarks.
	English.	Hindee and Sanscrit.	Persian and Oordoo.	Total.	English.	Hindee and Sanscrit.	Persian and Oordoo.	Total.	
College at Jeypore	1	1	1	3	142	145	192	479	
Vernacular Schools in the City ...	...	93	27	120	...	2,567	492	3,059	
Vernacular Schools in the Zillahs and Towns	...	144	26	170	...	3,576	446	4,022	
Female School	...	1	...	1	...	35	...	35	
Total ...	1	239	54	294	142	6,323	1,130	7,595	

B.

Number of Prisoners in the prison at Jeypore, and terms of imprisonment.

JEYPORE, 15*th April* 1868.

	Men.	Women.
Number of Prisoners of 1 year's imprisonment	104	28
Ditto ditto 2 years' ditto	72	14
Ditto ditto 3 ditto ditto	48	5
Ditto ditto 4 ditto ditto	8	0
Ditto ditto 5 ditto ditto	25	6
Ditto ditto 6 ditto ditto	7	2
Ditto ditto 7 ditto ditto	25	9
Ditto ditto 8 ditto ditto	8	0
Ditto ditto 9 ditto ditto	2	0
Ditto ditto 10 ditto ditto	15	1
Ditto ditto 11 ditto ditto	10	0
Ditto ditto 12 ditto ditto	5	1
Ditto ditto 14 ditto ditto	12	3
Ditto ditto 15 ditto ditto	4	1
Ditto ditto 19 ditto ditto	1	0
Ditto ditto 20 ditto ditto	14	1
Ditto ditto 21 ditto ditto	18	0
Ditto ditto 25 ditto ditto	1	0
Ditto ditto 30 ditto ditto	0	1
Ditto ditto for life	31	6
Ditto ditto Criminal Lunatic	1	0
Total ...	411	78
Number of prisoners at Narbarra	26	0
Ditto ditto Central Prison	384	77
Ditto ditto Midwifery Hospital	0	1
Ditto ditto Magistrate's Hawalat	1	0
	411	78
Prisoners under trial	240	38
	651	116
Grand total ...	767	

C.

Statement showing the working of the Jeypore Court of Vakeels for the year 1867.

Detail.		Number.	Remarks.
Under trial, 1st January 1867	82		The average duration of the suits was one year, one month, and 17 days. The total amount of decrees given was Rupees 1,29,571 against Rupees 4,59,951, the aggregate amount sued for, or 28·17 per cent.
Instituted during the year	129		
		211	In five of the cases the whole of the property for which compensation was claimed was recovered and made over to the plaintiffs.
Decided on merits	62		
Transferred to other Courts	6		There were during the year eight cases of appeal, two of which have been thrown out, two admitted, and four not yet disposed of.
Dismissed on default	58		
Adjusted or withdrawn	6		In eight of the cases adjudicated during the year, 50 persons have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment. Their crimes were chiefly dacoity and highway robbery; the terms of imprisonment ranging from six months to 21 years, the longer terms, however, predominating.
		132	
Remaining unsettled, 31st December 1867 ...	...	79	

D.

Abstract showing the number and the nature of the Cases adjudicated by the Jeypore Court of Vakeels during the year 1867.

Nature of Cases.		No.
Against the person.		
Murder	3	
Assault with wounding	1	
		4
Against property.		
Highway robbery with aggravated circumstances ...	7	
Ditto without ditto ...	58	
Gang robbery with aggravated ditto ...	4	
Ditto without ditto ...	...	
Theft...	16	
Cattle-stealing	27	
Arson...	1	
Traffic in human flesh	3	
Premeditated raids	2	
Various	10	
		128
Total ...	...	132

E.

CLIMATE.

Places at which observations taken and year for which taken.	Rain-fall in inches.				Average temperature in the Shade.									Prevailing winds.			Remarks.
					May.			*July.*			*December.*						
	January to May.	4th of August to September.	October to December.	Total.	Sunrise.	2 P. M.	Sunset.	Sunrise.	2 P. M.	Sunset.	Sunrise.	2 P. M.	Sunset.	January to May.	June to September.	October to December.	
Agency Surgeon's Residence from the 4th August 1867	...	8·09	1	9·09													
City Dispensary, 1867	...	...	...	...	86·03	94·1	91·4	86·8	92·3	90·7	...	...	...	West.	West.		
Jail Hospital, 1867	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88·4	90·71	90·9	57·16	68·25	66·83	...	West.	West.	

F.

List showing the names of Post Offices in Jeypore Division.

No.	Names of Post Offices.	No.	Names of Post Offices.
1	Jeypore.	19	Koochawun.
2	Ajmere.	20	Deedwana.
3	Seekur.	21	Soojangurh.
4	Nowlgurh.	22	Tonk.
5	Jhoonjnoo.	23	Hindown.
6	Soojangurh.	24	Kerrowlee.
7	Looharoo.	25	Mohwa.
8	Singhana.	26	Rajgurh.
9	Kote Pootlee.	27	Ulwur.
10	Khetree.	28	Tijarah.
11	Mundawa.	29	Beesulwas.
12	Bissao.	30	Madhopore
13	Ruttungurh.	31	Roopungurh.
14	Chooroo.	32	Pooshkur.
15	Ramgurh.	33	Peesangun.
16	Futtehpore.	34	Sambhur.
17	Luchmungurh.	35	Chedawa.
18	Ranowlee.		

JEYPORE,
The 7th May 1868.

(Sd.) W. H. BEYNON,
Political Agent.

MARWAR AGENCY REPORT.

No. 35-12P., dated 7th May 1868.

From—Captain E. C. Impey, Political Agent, Marwar.

To—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Keatinge, C. S. I., V. C., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

I have the honor to submit my Annual Report on Marwar for the past year, 1867-68.

Murder of the Dewan.

2. The event which has created the greatest sensation in this State during the past year, and has sensibly affected its administration, was the murder at Pokur,* during the fair, of the Dewan, Hajee Mahomed Khan. He was assassinated when sleeping at noon in his tent. The unfortunate man was the object of great jealousy and enmity in Marwar; his position as a foreigner was precarious, and threats had been uttered against him. Naturally, therefore, the general impression is, that he was the victim of a foul plot.

* On 10th November 1867.

3. The sudden fall of a man in his position created an immediate void and paralysed the Maharajah, who mourned deeply the loss of an active and fearless Minister. For some time after the Dewan's murder, no business whatever was transacted, and, indeed, up to the present time, there is no Government.

Appointment of his son.

4. The Maharajah, it is true, gave to a child of six, the son of the late Hajee Mahomed Khan, the seal of the Dewan and title of Nawab, with which he had invested the father; but this step was unwise, and only taken to prove the Maharajah's grief and resentment. As far as the administration is concerned, it can effect no good. It merely maintains some powers and emolument in the hands of the relations and adherents of the late Minister: among the former, there is not one to fill his place; of the latter, the only one likely to effect a footing is Murdan Allee Khan, a man of ability and experience.

Ghanerao case.

5. The case of the Ghanerao succession, which attracted attention during the early part of the year, was, after much difficulty with the Maharajah, concluded in February. Though my views of the case did not meet with approval, I must, in justice to myself, report that subsequent enquiry† proved the truth of my belief, expressed in my letters to the late Agent, Governor General, that the Thakoor's statements of occurrences had been grossly false; and the family confessed to me that they had been very ill-advised in what they wrote and did, and regretted that they had not, in the first instance,

† *Vide* letter No. 150-52P., dated 16th September 1867, to Agent, Governor General.

taken my advice, and attempted to conciliate the Maharajah by the Thakoor's personally seeking his estate from him,—a course to which eventually he had recourse.

Outlaw Thakoors.

6. In my letter No. 100-34P., of 17th June 1867, I had the honor to report to your predecessor the result of my mediation between the Maharajah and the outlaw Thakoors of Goolur, Asoph, Ulneeawass, and Bajawass. As you are aware, this case is one of long standing, the first steps against these recusant Thakoors being taken by the Durbar in 1856, under the sanction of the Political Agent, Sir R. Shakespeare. In 1857-58, they not only were in arms against their Chief, but (Goolur more especially) joined our mutinous troops; they ravaged Marwar, committed cruel excesses, and at last were protected by Bikaneer when about to succumb to the pursuing force of their own Durbar.

7. In accordance with the late Colonel Eden's instructions, I pressed on the Maharajah the advisability of pardoning and re-settling them in Marwar. He agreed at last to my negotiating terms with them; but, though prepared to give a liberal allowance in land, decidedly refused to restore to them their former estates. As, in my opinion, and that of former officers, these Thakoors had forfeited, by their protracted and violent rebellion, all right to their original fiefs, I could not object to His Highness's determination, while pardoning them, not to restore them to their former powerful positions. This important proviso, however, put an end to all negotiations, the Thakoors steadily refusing to accept of any terms which did not include the restoration of their original estates. They, therefore, still continue outlaws from Marwar.

Feud between Jodhas and Bedawut Thakoors.

8. In paragraph 19 of my Report for 1866-67, after alluding to the settlement made between the Jodhas of Marwar and the Beedawuts of Bikaneer, two border clans, between whom a blood feud existed, I stated, "it will be incumbent for the Political Agent to visit this border next marching season, and to place matters on a more permanent footing of peace." I am happy to say this I most satisfactorily accomplished last November; in presence of Deputies from both States, and of the Thakoor of Koochawan, the Chiefs of the two clans declared all differences settled, swore friendship on the "Umulpanee" (opium water), and bound themselves to refer any future disputes for judicial adjustment. I was able at the same time to settle other minor feuds, and I believe my visit to this unruly and remote border was attended with good results to the public peace.

Proceedings on the triple border.

9. My subsequent proceedings during this tour along the triple border of Marwar, Bikaneer, and Shekhawatee, the measures I adopted for the repression of dacoity, and my views as to its future control, were submitted in my letter No. 8-4P., of 25th January 1868.

Marwar and Serohi Boundary.

10. In February, in company with Lieutenant Muir, the Political Superintendent of Serohi, I demarcated the boundary over the Mal Pahar Hills, between Marwar and Serohi, and the pillars along the ridge and on the opposite slopes of the hill have been erected. This was of the more importance as the hill is the resort of a gang of noted thieves, and as long as the boundary was undefined, it was easy for both Marwar and Serohi to cast the charge of harbouring the robbers on each other. Though both States have been implicated, Marwar was the chief offender; and the remissness of the Durbar officials and their total omission of any effort to apprehend these thieves were most stringently brought by me to the Maharajah's notice; but nothing whatever has been done. Our enquiries and visit to their haunts inspired a temporary fear, and possibly the gang and its partizans have been warned by the higher powers to keep quiet for the present. This, I fear, is all the real good that has been effected.

Letter No. 15-5, dated 21st February 1868, to Agent, Governor General.

Ballot District.

11. The disturbed State of the neighbouring Ballot District of Marwar was one cause of the Mal Pahar Hills being a safe refuge for plunderers, and this was the next case that called for my attention.

Tukhtgurh Case.

12. In the waste lands of this part of Jalore, the Maharajah has for some years been making an estate, a proceeding which has much irritated the Thakoors whose jagheers surround it. There is little doubt the lands which compose Tukhtgurh originally belonged to petty Rajpoots of the Ballot clan, who died out, and whose estates had lapsed. For miles and miles around the country is waste jungle. Its settlement was originally cautiously made, and no land taken without enquiry; but the boundaries were in part left undefined, and fear of annexation alarmed the neighbourhood. Serious disturbances arose. The khalsa village had been given to the Maharajah's eldest Queen, the Ranawutjee, and it had to be protected by Durbar troops.

13. I had repeatedly brought the disgraceful state of this district to the notice of the Maharajah, but without avail; so, as these disturbances seriously affected the security of the high road and the peace of the neighbouring States, though, as an internal dispute, it was beyond the Political Agent's immediate province, I had to undertake the enquiry and insist on the various parties settling their differences before me. This was not effected without an endless amount of trouble, vexation, and labour, and protracted visits to the places under dispute, and even now one portion has not been completed; the Sanderao Thakoor resolutely opposing any decision which does not assign to him certain lands, to which, in my opinion, he has no claim beyond that of seizure.

14. The Durbar officials, specially deputed by the Maharajah for the adjustment of this case, aided me effectually so long as the interests of the Durbar were to be protected; but as soon as boundaries, for which the Maharajah was anxious, were defined, which would not have been

done had it not been for my presence and influence with the Thakoors, then their tactics changed, and they evaded the settlement of remaining disputes where they had to make concessions.

15. This case, in which twelve villages were concerned, and a circuit of some 30 miles of boundary, is an instance of the weakness and misconduct of the Durbar, and of the strength of the Thakoors, who could thus resolutely hold thier ground against their Chief.

State of Sanchore and Jallore Districts.

16. A somewhat similar state of disorder exists in the Sanchore and Jallore Districts, bordering on Pahlunpore and Serohi. Though my visit in February and March 1867 did much to pacify the tract and repress cattle-lifting and strife, still, I fear, from the weakness and carelessness of the Durbar and the recusancy of the Thakoors, who own no authority or control, the district is fast relapsing into its former state of dissension and plundering.

The Sakkra tract.

17. The Sakkra tract of Marwar, which lies on its north-west border, and on the confines of Jeysulmere and Mullanee, is in precisely the same state. It is infested by plundering Rajpoots, and the Maharajah will neither keep it in order himself, nor allow the Pokurn Thakoor, whose estate suffers most, to do so.

The Thakoors and the Maharajah.

18. The defiant attitude taken up by several of the Oodawut Thakoors last year in connection with the Ghanerao case, when they combined to assist him in fighting against the Maharajah, indicates the feeling of that faction. Since then the policy of even this violent party has changed, and though I could name two or three who would take any pretence to defy their Chief and commit bloodshed, still the spirit which instigated them last year has, I am happy to say, passed away with the times; but the combination, though it has lost this mutinous and dangerous character, has become wider and firmer.

19. At Jodhpore are now collected the principal Thakoors of Marwar, amongst whom Pokurn, Koochawan, Raepore, and Neembhaj are the chief. They are all unanimous in their resolution to insist upon the Maharajah's changing the present state of affairs. Whether they will maintain or abandon this scheme, or whether it will have the desired effect, it is impossible to foresee. The Maharajah has promised me he will make an administration and settle outstanding cases; but I predict his promises will be only imperfectly, if at all, fulfilled; and then we must be prepared for even further dissatisfaction, if not an open collision between the Maharajah, his Thakoors, and his sons, with the contingency of either party calling for our intervention. This has been significantly hinted at already, and constant pointed allusion made to the similar state of affairs in 1836, when the Thakoors called for our interposition, and when, during the remainder of Maharajah Maun Singh's life-time, a Regency Council was formed, presided over by the Political Agent.

20. The Thakoors are now following the advice you gave them at Jodhpore, and have personally represented their grievances to the Maharajah. After repeated delays they were admitted to an audience. The Maharajah listened quietly, but no promise or reply was given. Two further interviews have ended as fruitlessly, each proposition from them being met by a counter one from the Maharajah.

21. Several of the Maharajah's best officials, though not independent enough to speak or act so openly as the Thakoors, have still urged upon the Maharajah the necessity of his rousing himself.

Agent's Durbar of the Thakoors and Officials.

22. I held, on the 30th March, a Durbar of all the Thakoors and Raj officials, and after dwelling upon the present state of Marwar, and telling them the Maharajah had promised me to remedy it, I called upon them to unanimously assist their Chief, begged them to set aside all personal grievances and squabbles. I told them that without them the Maharajah could do little or nothing, and that where Thakoors and officials were so numerous, and possessed so great a portion of the country, it lay chiefly in their power to ensure a good Government, and that in any efforts to act thus constitutionally and patriotically, they were sure to meet with the approval and support of our Government.

23. This address was the more called for both from the antagonistic attitude of the Thakoors, and from the majority being equally, if not more, to blame with the Maharajah for misrule in the State. Ready to get their own petty and often-imagined grievances settled, they generally brook no interference or control, and disregard and thwart any measures by which they personally do not benefit. Indeed, it is impossible to foresee, however, under the present system, without some access of power to the Durbar, an uniform and good administration of this large and unruly province can be hoped for.

The Maharajah and his government of Marwar.

24. The Maharajah is nominally carrying on the Government himself, but his incapacity for any permanent attention to business is well known; and the result has been, that next to nothing is done either to adjust complaint, or remedy evils. His Highness has met my unremitted remonstrances as to this unsatisfactory state of affairs with ever-repeated promises of amendment and schemes for the distribution of work, establishment of a Council and of Courts to redress grievances and administer justice. I see, however, no hope of His Highness's ever being of himself able to maintain his proper position and power at the head of so large and unruly a State.

Feeling of the country.

25. Not that there has been any serious outbreak or occurrence in Marwar to create alarm, but the Thakoors, the best officials, the people, and even the Maharajah's own family, know and feel that Marwar is drifting into a helpless state of weakness and misrule, which they fear

may justifiably call for the more direct interference of the Supreme power.

26. In the Maharajah's own family there is much dissension: the numerous sons, five of whom have attained manhood, are getting beyond their father's control; and their separate maintenance is a continual source of irritation and contention.

Résumé of the past year.

27. With the demise of the late Dewan, with the total absence of any Government, and with all these elements of strife and dissension, rife in this unfortunate State, I need not say that the past year has been one of retrogression. Indeed, all the efforts of this Office to get even ordinary business and correspondence between it and the Durbar transacted, especially where any outlay is called for, naturally have been impeded. Not that any rudeness is shown by the Maharajah or his officials, but simply the apathy and desire to shelve or procrastinate matters, resulting often from an inability to execute, are so strong, that it is endless trouble to get cases disposed of.

New Telegraph Office at Pallee.

28. Among the numerous instances, I give that of the Telegraph Office at Pallee. The Maharajah asked for the establishment of an Office there for the benefit of that town and of Jodhpore. It suited Government better to have an Office there than at Erinpoorah, and his wishes were agreed to on condition the building should be erected by the Maharajah. To this His Highness acceded. A plan was sent him in March 1867; he was desired to commence upon the work. Though I have repeatedly in person reminded him of it, not a fortnight's proper work has been yet done. I believe the foundations even would not have been dug, or partly laid, were it not for a wish to show me, when at Pallee, that progress was being made.

Highway robbery.

29. Highway robbery has been very prevalent during the past year. In the Court of Vakeels 24 of such cases have been brought against the State; these are, of course, only those in which subjects of other States have been robbed: but a great many in which Marwar subjects are sufferers have come to my knowledge, and the two most frequented main roads, which ought to be best guarded—the road from Pallee to Jodhpore, and from the latter town, *viâ* Mairta to Ajmere—are notoriously infested by robbers, so much so, that many Pallee traders have left, and many more threaten to do so. The Maharajah is well aware of this, and there is ground for grave suspicion that regular bands issue from Jodhpore and Pallee itself to follow up caravans: still, I regret to say, no arrangement for the protection of property has been made.

Imposts.

30. The vexatious and irregular imposts levied on goods passing along the thoroughfare between Erinpoorah and Beeawur give much

trouble to traders and travellers. I have at last succeeded in inducing the Maharajah to arrange the duties, so far as supplies proceeding from Marwar for the use of the Erinpoorah Cantonment are concerned, and His Highness's concessions have been just and liberal. If abided by, there will be no further cause for dissatisfaction. The shopkeepers at Nusseerabad have, with reason, complained of the detention of their stores and the unjust demands made along the road, and I am doing my best to remove these annoyances, which are shared in by all in Ajmere and Nusseerabad, who procure goods from Ahmedabad and Bombay by this route. There is no doubt both the trade and income of Marwar are much injured by these exactions. There is no uniform rate or control; villages and local officials levy as they like.

Staging Bungalows.

31. The staging bungalows between Erinpoorah and Beeawur* are maintained by the Maharajah, but they want repair, which, I fear, will not be done, though he has repeatedly been informed of their condition.

* 1. Dhola. 2. Pallee. 3. Soojut. 4. Chundawul. 5. Burr.

Post Offices, &c.

32. No fresh postal lines or Offices have been established since my last Annual Report. The Deputy Postmaster of Jodhpore was discharged in June for misconduct, and the Pallee Postmaster has also been just removed. The Offices are under the Bombay Government, and since the former Inspecting Postmaster of this (Oodeypore) division died at Pallee in July, they were not subjected to any inspection till last March, when a new Inspecting Postmaster visited them, accompanied by the Inspecting Postmaster of the Ahmedabad Division. The head-quarters of this division is at Ahmedabad, which is too distant for proper control of these Post Offices. Consequently, there is great laxity; and from the small pay, dearness, and remoteness of the locality, men of an inferior stamp can only be found to fill these posts. I know there is little reliance placed in these Post Offices, and the Government revenue must suffer therefrom.

33. In Marwar no robbery of the Government mails on the high-way has occurred during the past year. At Soojut, while left in transit, at the Hakim's Kutcherry, the mail bag was taken off and plundered by a thief, and the State has paid the value of the contents. This, however, was merely the act of a thief, and might have occurred any where. Last February the mail between Futtehpore, Shekhawatee, Ruttunpore, and Bikaneer, was plundered in Bikaneer by three horse-men: the case is under enquiry in this Court of Vakeels.

Durbar Returns of income and expenditure.

34. I have received from the Durbar Returns of the income and expenditure of the State for the past year; but I find them quite untrust-worthy, and consequently likely to mislead; so do not transmit them. The revenue of the year is entered as Rupees 34,90,635, and the outlay as Rupees 32,41,285.

35. With my Report for 1866-67, I submitted a list of villages in Marwar.* I have tried to obtain a list of all the Thakoors' villages, with their income and the dues they pay the Durbar, but I have not pushed the matter, as, perhaps, at present it had better be left alone.

* G. of Enclosures. Of villages.

Rain-fall.

36. The rain-fall in 1867 was generally good, though the rains came late: the tanks have been well filled at Jodhpore, but before last year's rains commenced, drinking water became so scarce, that an ordinary earthen-potful sold for two to four annas, and there was great wrangling and confusion at the few wells which did not fail. The great sufferers from drought are the cattle, which, especially in the arid plains of Western Marwar, die in hundreds from thirst and want of grass.

Crops.

37. The crops, however, were generally above the average, and the present rubbee (spring) crops are good.

Health.

38. The general health of the district has been exceptionally good. Cholera visited Eastern Marwar in June—July; but its ravages were not great, save in the Nagore District and Mairta.

Medical Officers.

39. The services of Dr. Moore were lost to this Agency in July. His successor, Dr. King, joined in January. In the interim the Agency suffered considerable inconvenience.

Dispensaries.

40. The three dispensaries of Jodhpore, Pallee, and Mullanee, have worked well during the year, and their cost has been small, as the following abstract shows:—

Summary of the Marwar Dispensaries and Vaccination Reports for the year 1867.

Institutions.	Number of patients treated.		Surgical operations.		Expenditure on each institution.	Vaccination.			Number of Vaccinators employed.	Expenditure on account of Vaccinators.	Remarks.
	House.	Out.	Important.	Minor.		Successful.	Unsuccessful or doubtful.	Total.			
					Rs. a. p.					*Rs. a. p.*	
Jodhpore Dispensary ...	20	4,084	6	91	2,029 1 7						
Jodhpore Jail	292	...	...	...	.....						The expenditure incurred on account of treating sick prisoners in jail is included in that of the head Dispensary.
Pallee Dispensary ...	32	3,486	5	122	736 2 8	2,992	2,051	5,043	3	232 0 0	
Mullanee Dispensary ...	...	2,193	6	56	595 12 0						
Total ...	344	9,763	17	269	3,361 0 3	2,992	2,051	5,043	3	232 0 0	

Vaccination.

41. Considerable difficulty has been found in procuring and keeping vaccinators. Dr. Moore was anxious to raise their pay, but I can get no answer from the Durbar, the only interpretation of which can be a dislike to accede to the proposal. There is no prejudice against vaccination among the higher classes. The Maharajah has his own family vaccinated, and the Thakoors often bring their children.

Marwar Court of Vakeels.

42. The Marwar Court of Vakeels held its usual Sessions at Mount Aboo, Jodhpore, Ajmere, and in Camp during the past year. The following Statement gives the number of cases and of appeals made to the higher (Rajpootana) Court. The Court has worked assiduously and well:—

Cases undecided on 1st April 1867.	Filed up to 31st March 1868.	Total of cases.	Decided in the year.	Balance undecided on 31st of March 1868.	Cases appealed.		
					Decision confirmed.	Decision reversed.	Pending decision.
223	256	479	359	110	3	1	2

Amount of decrees paid.

43. During the year, Rupees 74,688-8-1 have been paid by me to plaintiffs for decrees in the Court of Vakeels.

Balances due by States to the Treasurer.

44. There is considerable difficulty in recovering from some of the States sums they owe the Treasurer of this Agency for advances made for awards due by them to plaintiffs of other States. The principal items due are—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Marwar	1,21,464	4	6
Bikaneer	19,172	5	6
Jeysulmere	6,343	4	6

Cases.

45. Besides those cases already dwelt on, there have been none other worthy of special mention, though I have had the satisfaction of convicting one gang of dacoits seized in Marwar and surrendered to me for trial.

Judicial Work.

46. The two annexed Returns will show the amount of judicial work which has been performed in this Agency:—

Cases undecided on the 1st April 1867.	Filed from 1st April 1867 to 31st March 1868.	Total during the year.	Decided from 1st April 1867 to 31st March 1868.	Balance undisposed of on the 31st March 1868.
333	447*	780	595	185

Nature of Offences.	Number of Cases.
Murder	2
Suicide	...
Culpable homicide	...
Rape	...
Dacoitees with murder	1
Dacoity	6
Highway robberies	15
House-breaking	...
Mail robberies	1
Cattle-lifting and ordinary thefts	46
Receiving stolen property	2
Boundary cases	2
Miscellaneous cases	520
Total ...	595

Tours, &c.

47. I was marching from the middle of October to the middle of January, when I visited all the northern and eastern border of Marwar, proceeded to Sambhur and Ajmere, and thence returned to Jodhpore. Thence during the next three months I made several excursions to the Jalore and Godewar Districts and to Mullanee to settle cases.

* Besides these, which are purely cases remaining in this Office, 2,677 cases returned to other Offices, reports and miscellaneous papers not retained in Office, have been heard, and orders passed thereon.

BHURTPORE AGENCY REPORT.

No. 24-12, dated 16th April 1868.

From—Captain C. K. M. Walter, Political Agent, Bhurtpore.

To—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Keatinge, C. S. I., V. C., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

Reference.

In obedience to the instructions contained in Circular letter No. 1096, of the 9th of September last, from your predecessor, I do myself the honor to report on the administration of the Bhurtpore State for the Sumbut year 1923, or from the 25th September 1866 to the 13th September 1867; and, in doing so, shall touch upon the various subjects on which information is more especially called for in the order laid down in the letter under reply.

Rain-fall of 1867.

2. The rain-fall at Bhurtpore, as registered by Assistant-Surgeon Harvey, in medical charge of the Agency, was 27·94 inches, of which 1·00 fell into two days of January, 1·50 in three days of June, 11·63 in 16 days of July, 10·96 in 14 days of August, 2·68 in five days of September, and ·17 in one day of October: so that rain fell only on 41 days in sufficient quantity to allow of registration. The total amount of rain which fell, however, in 1867 is considerably above the average, which, as I last year reported, I consider to be about 22 inches. The register was kept only at Bhurtpore, but the fall was, I believe, pretty general throughout the district.

Remarks on the harvests gathered during the year under report, and on the prospect of the spring harvest of 1868.

3. The spring harvest of 1867 was not as good as usual, owing mainly, I fancy, to very little rain falling after the month of August. In some pergunnahs the out-turn was better than in others, but, on the whole, the spring crop of 1867 was not a very favourable one.

4. The autumn crop of 1867 throughout the district was above the average. I was out in camp before the rainy season was over, and seldom have seen better autumn crops than those of the past year.

5. The prospects of the spring harvest of 1868 are most favourable; the crops of gram, wheat, and barley, are such as I do not think I have ever seen before. This is owing to the great quantity of rain which fell last year. During the present year also the crops have been greatly improved by rain, which has fallen frequently and at periods when it was most required; the out-turn of the harvest will be far above the average, and if the price of grain keeps up, as seems likely, the zemindars will be able to dispose of the produce of their fields at a very large profit. In some portions of the district, however, owing to the intense cold, the dall and cotton crops were destroyed by frost, and this of course will entail loss on the cultivators.

General health of the district.

6. In the months of April and May last there was an outbreak of cholera at Bhurtpore itself, and the epidemic extended over nearly the whole

of the district. It was, however, much less severe than I have known it before, and the number of recoveries was, I believe, larger than usual. A report on the subject was made at the time: further comment is therefore unnecessary.

7. With the exception of this outbreak, the health of the district throughout the year has been good. The dispensaries have worked very well, and continue to be highly appreciated by the people. A new branch dispensary has been established at Oochein, at the special request of the inhabitants. Vaccination has been much more successful this cold season than it has hitherto been; but as a special report will be made at the proper time on this subject, I will not give any further details at present.

The income and expenditure of the State for the Sumbut year 1923.

8. The total income of the State, including the receipts of the Deorhee villages, or lands set apart for the maintenance of the Maharanee and other ladies, is Rupees 26,36,918-8-9. This is an increase over last year of Rupees 7,854-7-9.

9. You will observe that the income of the Khalsa Land Revenue, which, placed under one head last year, included also all other items of revenue from pergunnahs, was Rupees 18,26,442-13-9, whilst this year it is only Rupees 17,34,865-7-6, showing a decrease of Rupees 91,577-6-3. This is owing to the pergunnah of Bhurtpore having been made over to the Deorhee, as mentioned in my Report of last year. This increases the income of the Deorhee by Rupees 90,640-7-9, which, with Rupees 939-14-6, of which there is a falling off in the receipts from pergunnahs against those of last year, makes up the difference.

10. The total expenditure of the State, including the Deorhee establishment, was Rupees 26,19,620-6, against Rupees 28,92,306-15 last year: the income exceeded the expenditure this year by Rupees 17,298-2-9.

11. In the Public Works Department the expenditure this year exceeds that of last year by Rupees 20,671-10-3. Of the total amount, Rupees 1,20,284-3-3 were spent on roads, and Rupees 43,175-13 on Irrigation Works.

12. In the Miscellaneous items, which include expenditure on account of journeys taken by the Maharajah (amounting this year to Rupees 1,24,230), there is an increase over last year of Rupees 30,115-8-3.

13. Expenditure on religious and charitable grants is less this year than last.

14. Under head of Civil List there is a decrease in the expenditure this year of Rupees 1,12,030-5-6. This is accounted for by Rupees 79,411-2-6, which were paid to the Deorhee last year from the Treasury, having been included under the head of Civil List in last year's Returns, and by two months' pay having been entered in last year's accounts, which ought to have been debited to this year.

15. In the expenditure on the Army this year, there is also a considerable decrease, likewise accountable for by two months' pay

having been debited to last year's accounts, which rightly belonged to this year.

16. The expenditure on the Police and on Pensions is less this year than last.

17. Under the head of Communications, there is also a decrease this year of Rupees 63,796-14-6.

18. In Education there is an increase. The expenditure on the Medical Services is much the same as last year.

19. In Buildings there is an increase of Rupees 6,209-4-6. I consider the amount expended under this head as money well laid out, as it is spent mainly in the erection of substantial pucca buildings where mud huts formerly existed—in the repairs and improvements of palaces at Deeg—in paving the streets of the Bhurtpore city, &c., &c. A sum of Rupees 21,575-0-9 was also expended on the Mausoleum which the Maharajah is constructing at Goberdhun over the ashes of his father, which, when completed, will be a noble structure, and another addition to the many beautiful buildings that have been erected at the same place by the ancestors of the Maharajah.

20. In Stationery and Foreign Services the expenditure this year has been less than that of Sumbut 1922.

21. The cash balance at the close of last year was Rupees 12,74,141-7-6, which I consider a most satisfactory proof of the flourishing condition of the State. An enclosure, marked A. and numbered 1, shows the income and expenditure of the State for the Sumbut year 1923 in detail.

Trade and Customs Returns.

22. A document, marked B. and numbered 2, gives the detail of the Trade and Customs Returns of the Bhurtpore State for the year under report. In my last year's Report I submitted these Returns in maunds: this was corrected in your Office, and the total amount converted into tons. This would seem to have been done at the rate of 28 maunds to a ton, which is incorrect: 29 maunds and 11 seers make one ton, but to save abstruse calculation, I have put 29 maunds as one ton.

23. The Returns for this year show a decrease in the amount of imports, a very large increase in the amount of exports, a decrease in the through traffic, and an increase in the internal trade of Bhurtpore. There is a total increase in the trade of this year over the last of 2,081 tons.

24. I have included the trade arising from Bhurtpore salt in the present Returns. The amount sold this year is less than that of last year by 933 tons, but the income derived from this source of revenue this year exceeds that of last year by Rupees 3,776-0-6, which shows that the rate at which salt was sold in Sumbut 1923 was higher than that of the previous year.

25. The cause of the rise in the price of Bhurtpore salt would seem to be, first, that the out-turn of salt for 1923 was less than that of Sumbut 1922; secondly, there was a brisker demand for the salt, and hence the price rose. At the close of last year the amount of

salt in store was 39,888 tons, against 54,077 tons this year. The present season's out-turn is not likely to be good, in consequence of several showers having fallen during the season of preparing the pans for the reception of the salt.

26. I find, on enquiry, that the highest price at which salt sold in Sumbut 1922 was Rupees 6-10 per pulla, which is one maund and 6 seers; whilst in Sumbut 1923 the highest price was Rupees 7-0-9 per pulla.

Return of work performed by the various Courts in the Bhurtpore State for Sumbut 1923.

27. The various Courts remain the same as last year. I will, therefore, without further preface, proceed to give an account of the work got through by the different officers.

28. In order that you may gather at a glance what the work has been, I give the Statement in this place, commencing with my own Office.

Statement showing the work performed by Political Agent during the Sumbut year 1923.

No.	Description of Cases.	Pending from last year.	Instituted.	Transferred to other Courts.	Received by transfer.	Remaining for trial.	Total.	Disposed of	Pending.
1	Civil Appeals	3	93	0	0	93	96	86	10
2	Criminal Appeals...	1	34	0	0	34	35	33	2
3	Revenue Appeals	2	50	0	0	50	52	45	7
4	Criminal Cases other than Appeals ...	2	6	5	30	36	38	37	1
5	Miscellaneous	50	3,660	0	0	3,660	3,710	3,594	116
	Total ...	58	3,843	5	30	3,873	3,931	3,795	136

29. You will observe that the total number of cases of all kinds which came before me during the year under report was 3,931, of which 3,795 were disposed of, leaving 136 pending settlement at the close of the year. The cause of this large balance is, that towards the end of the Sumbut year, in addition to my own duties, I had also, for a period of three months, charge of the Office of the Jeypore Agency during the absence of Major Beynon on privilege leave; and whilst so acting, I was ordered to proceed to the Jeypore and Ulwur border: in consequence my own work fell into arrears.

30. In addition to the actual number of cases settled by me, as shown in the Statement, it must be borne in mind that I have other multifarious duties to perform, amongst which, not one of the lightest, is the control of the finances of the State, which in itself takes up a considerable portion of time daily.

31. Although I endeavour, as far as is possible, to carry on the work of the State through the native officials, yet the actual labour I have to perform is very heavy and the amount of responsibility equally great.

32. Next comes the Office of the Regency Council. The Return of work done by the Council is given below. I have also entered in the same Statement the work done by the Moonsurrim of the Deorhee, or Tehseeldar of villages set apart for the maintenance of the Maharanee and other ladies of the State, and by the Tehseeldar of the Salt villages, as these two officials are directly under the control of the Council, and not under that of the Magistrates.

Statement showing the work done by the Council of Regency in Sumbut 1923, *also by the Moonsurrim of the Deorhee and the Tehseeldar of Salt.*

No.	Description of Court.	Description of Cases.	Pending from last year.	Instituted.	Transferred to other Courts.	Received by transfer.	Remaining for trial.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Remarks.
1	Regency Council ...	Civil Appeals.	13	138	...	...	138	151	108	43	
2	Ditto ditto ...	Criminal Appeals.	10	78	...	...	78	88	72	16	
3	Ditto ditto ...	Miscellaneous.	123	4,191	4	25	4,216	4,339	4,148	191	
4	Moonsurrim of Deorhee ...	Cases of all kinds.	...	4	1	100	104	104	93	11	
5	Tehseeldar of Salt ...	Ditto	...	.....	...	23	23	23	23	...	
	Total ...	.....	146	4,411	5	148	4,559	4,705	4,444	261	

33. The total number of cases under trial in the Court of the Regency Council for Sumbut 1923 was 4,578, against 5,815 last year, whilst the number disposed of was 4,328, against 5,666 last year, leaving the number pending settlement at the end of the year 250, against 149 last year.

34. The cause of there being a larger number of cases pending settlement this year than last is owing to several members of the Council having been ill during the year under report; hence delay arose in the settlement of cases. Foujdar Goberdhun Singh has been, through sickness, unable to attend the meetings of the Council at all, and owing to the death of Dewan Rampershad, the number of the Council has been reduced to four working members.

35. When you were at Bhurtpore in the cold weather, you suggested the advisability of another member being appointed in the room of the late Bukshee, Rampershad. I purpose reporting separately on this matter shortly, and should have done so before, but there is a difficulty in securing the services of an efficient member for the Council. Bukshee Gungaram, who was in the Council before, is now employed about the person of the young Maharajah, and his time is, in consequence, much occupied.

36. The Moonsurrim of the Deorhee disposed of 93 cases out of 104, leaving 11 cases pending settlement at the close of the year. You will observe that 100 cases are entered as received by transfer in his Office; these are cases in which the preliminary enquiry had been conducted by the Tehseeldars of the district subordinate to the Moonsurrim of the Deorhee, to whom they are sent by these subordinates for final orders.

37. Twenty-three cases came under trial by the Tehseeldar of Salt; there are only 9 villages under him altogether. All these cases were sent up to him for final orders by the Thanadars, or Mohurrirs under him, and all were disposed of.

38. Annexed is the Return of work performed in the Civil Courts of the Adawluttees of Bhurtpore and Deeg and those of officers subordinate to them during Sumbut 1923:—

Statement showing the work performed in the Civil Courts of Bhurtpore for Sumbut 1923.

Description of Court.	Pending at the end of last year.	Instituted.			Total for trial.	Disposed of.	Pending.
		Original.	Appeals.	Total.			
Magistrate of Bhurtpore ...	8	191	165	356	364	356	8
Subordinate Courts ...	41	1,166	...	1,166	1,207	1,166	41
Magistrate of Deeg ...	3	209	17	226	229	229	...
Subordinate Courts ...	13	330	...	330	343	330	13
Total ...	65	1,896	182	2,078	2,143	2,081	62

39. The total number of cases instituted in all these Courts was 2,078, against 2,570 in Sumbut 1922; the total number disposed of was 2,081, against 2,606 of last year, leaving the number of cases pending trial 62, against 65 of last year.

40. The criminal work got through by these officials is detailed below:—

Statement showing the work performed in the Criminal Courts of Bhurtpore for Sumbut 1923.

Description of Court.	Pending from last year.	Instituted.	Transferred to other Courts.	Received by transfer.	Appeals.	Remaining for trial.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Remarks.
Magistrate of Bhurtpore ...	13	923	23	417	103	1,443	1,456	1,449	7	
Subordinate Courts ...	34	1,813	417	...	...	1,813	1,847	1,824	23	
Magistrate of Deeg ...	...	1,455	1	577	10	2,042	2,042	2,039	3	
Subordinate Courts ...	2	974	577	...	...	397	399	373	26	
Total ...	49	5,165	1,018	949	113	5,695	5,744	5,685	59	

41. The result shows a considerable reduction in the number of cases instituted compared with the Returns of Sumbut 1922, the number this year being 5,165, against 6,036 of last year, leaving the total number 5,744, against 6,171 of last year. The number disposed of was 5,685, against 6,122 last year, leaving the number pending settlement 59 this year, against 49 last.

42. Although in the Criminal Courts there is a balance of 10 more cases pending settlement than last year, yet I think the work done by all the officials must be looked upon as satisfactory.

43. A Statement, marked C. 3, being an enclosure to this Report, gives an analysis of all the criminal cases that have come under trial during Sumbut 1923 in all the different Courts of the State.

44. A second Statement, marked D. 4, shows the number of persons arrested and how they were disposed of. The Statement C. is not so complete as I could wish; it should have shown the number of persons arrested and the mode of disposal under each head.

45. Under the head of "wilful murder," for instance, 79 persons were arrested; but if we turn to the table showing the various punishments awarded to convicted criminals, we shall find that there was only one person sentenced by myself to the highest punishment awardable by me, *viz.*, seven years; and of six criminals, whose cases were transferred to your Office for final orders, two were imprisoned for life and four for 14 years each. This shows a very small number of convictions in proportion to the number arrested under the head of "wilful murder."

46. I shall hope another year to be able to give more detailed Statements, which will show exactly the number of persons arrested and convicted under each head. It would delay this Report too much if I were to wait for the Returns to be prepared now.

47. The total number of persons arrested in all was 4,091, of whom 1,827 were convicted, 2,211 acquitted, 2 died, 25 escaped, and 22 were transferred to other Courts.

48. Of the total number of persons convicted, 276 were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and 45 were flogged; of the 45 cases, most, if not all, were boys, accused of petty theft and crimes of that sort. The Adawluttees alone have the power of flogging, and they can only inflict 12 stripes without the previous sanction of the Political Agent.

49. 1,506 offenders were punished by fine only: this is a very large number, being 82·43 per cent. of the whole number convicted. Native Judges are too fond of this mode of punishment; it carries weight with them, as it brings money into the coffers of the State. Very frequently prisoners are allowed to pay a fine in lieu of working out the sentences of imprisonment passed upon them. I have frequently pointed out the inadvisability of such a course, but it is difficult to eradicate a system which would seem to be almost hereditary in Native States. In next year's Report I will endeavour to give a Statement showing for what crimes fines have been levied, and the amount received from the same.

50. In the summary of my Report of last year, your predecessor commented upon the very great license of appeal in civil cases, and pointed out that arrangements were being made for placing this matter on a more satisfactory footing, so as to prevent future litigation. This has now been done. The decision of the two Adawluttees or Native Magistrates of Bhurtpore and Deeg is to be final in all cases in which the claim is for not more than Rupees 150. The decision of the Council of Regency is final in all cases where the claim does not exceed Rupees 300, and that of the Political Agent final in all cases beyond that amount up to Rupees 1,000.

51. This matter received your attention when you were at Bhurtpore in the cold weather, after discussion with the Council of Regency and myself, and was formally sanctioned by your letter No. 23J., dated 25th January 1868.

52. The work done by Mr. Thomas Heatherly in the Revenue Department is as follows :—

Statement showing the work done by the Revenue Office during Sumbut 1923.

Name of Court.	Balance of last year.	Instituted.	Total.	Disposed of.	Balance.
Revenue Office.					
Mr. Thos. Heatherly	983	5,928	6,911	5,762	1,149

53. The total number of cases instituted in his Court was somewhat less than that of Sumbut 1922, being 5,928 to 6,053; the number disposed of was 5,762, against 5,858 of the previous year, leaving a balance of 1,149 cases, against 983 undisposed of the previous year.

54. By this it will be seen that the work in Mr. Heatherly's Office has been very heavy, and in addition to the work got through, as detailed above, the labour of preparing all the necessary Statements for the proposed settlement has fallen upon this Office, whilst Mr. Heatherly has had personally to visit each khalsa village in the State, in order to check the Returns submitted to him by the Tehseel authorities.

55. The work of his Office has been most ably conducted by Mr. Heatherly, and he continues to give me every satisfaction.

Post Offices and Staging Bungalows.

56. There are altogether four postal lines traversing the Bhurtpore State, the detail of which is annexed, with the list of Post Offices situated in the Bhurtpore Territory :—

No.	From	To	Distance within Bhurtpore Territory.	Name of Post Office.	Remarks.
1	Agra ...	Ajmere ...	44½	Bhurtpore.	By mail cart to Jeypore.
2	Bhurtpore	Koombhere, Deeg, and Kaman.	34	Koombhere.	By runners.
3	Ditto ...	Muthra ...	8½	Deeg ...	Ditto.
4	Deeg ...	Ditto ...	5	Kama ...	Ditto.

57. The mail cart between Agra and Jeypore began to run on the 15th January of the present year, and as it is under good management, I have every hope that the carriage of the mails on this line will be satisfactorily conducted.

58. I believe it is in contemplation to establish some more Post Offices in some of the larger pergunnah towns; at the present time there are only four Post Offices in the State.

59. The postal runners, as well as the mail carts, are escorted through the district by sowars, and I am glad to be able to report that there have been no robberies of the mail within the Bhurtpore Territory during the year under report.

60. The postal service has, as far as I am able to judge, been efficiently performed.

Staging bungalows.

61. There are two staging bungalows within the Bhurtpore Territory, one at Haleyna on the Agra and Ajmere Road, 22 miles from Bhurtpore, belonging to Government, and one at Bhurtpore, kept up by the Durbar. The bungalow at Haleyna has lately been erected, and has most comfortable and ample accommodation for travellers; that at Bhurtpore has also lately been rebuilt on a more extensive scale; it is well furnished, and travellers receive every attention when passing through Bhurtpore.

62. With reference to paragraph 2 of Circular No. 1096, laying down instructions for the compilation of this Report, I have the honor to inform you that the total number of towns in the Bhurtpore Territory is 24, and the number of villages, including hamlets, 1,347.

63. Of the total number of villages, 999 are khalsa and the rest are divided as follows:—

Held rent-free by Thakoors, connexions of the Maharajah and his ancestors	29
Held rent-free by Sirdars and others not Thakoors	71½
By Enamees and others in lieu of service	44
For the maintenance of temples	52½
For the establishment of the Maharanee and other lady members of the family	175

64. An enclosure to this Report, marked E. and numbered 5, gives a list of the Thakoors, or their widows, now in possession of the villages, with the amount in money at which the village is supposed to be valued. This amount cannot, however, be relied upon. Some of the villages are worth more and some less than the sums entered against them.

65. These Thakoors form what is called the "Kotree-Bund:" they are all descendants of the great Sooruj-Mull, and are therefore connexions of the Rajah. They hold their villages rent-free, and have to perform no service for the same.

66. Another Statement, marked F. and numbered 6, shows the total number of villages, khalsa and maafee, and how the latter are held, with the total amount at which they are valued.

67. You will observe by this Statement that 71½ villages are held by Sirdars and others, not Thakoors, and that the total amount at which these villages are valued is Rupees 1,29,853-8. But the amount so entered cannot be relied upon, for, in the same way as with the Thakoor villages, some are worth more and some less than the value entered against them. These villages are all held rent-free, and no service is demanded from the possessors of the same.

68. Fifty-two and half villages are set apart as endowments for temples; the total annual value of the whole is put down at Rupees 46,514. I fancy, however, the lands so held bring in a larger amount than that at which they are returned.

69. Forty-four villages, valued at Rupees 95,772, are held by Enamees and others in lieu of service; the total number of guns to be provided by the Enamees, when occasion may require, is 1,876: when called on to perform service, these men receive pay at the rate of four pice a day. At ordinary times only two-thirds of these men are called upon to serve, one-third being permitted to live in the villages and cultivate their lands. If any of the number, whose turn for duty it is, absents himself from any cause, he has to pay at the rate of Rupee 1-8 per month for as many days as he may be absent

70. The total amount of revenue for the pergunnah of Bhurtpore, which has now been made over to the Deorhee, as fixed by the last settlement, is Rupees 2,00,863-10-3; and that of the khalsa villages 14,78,348-5-6: this makes the total income from all lands, khalsa and maafee, Rupees 19,98,192-7-9.

Public Works Department.

71. In this Department the Durbar have suffered a great loss in having been deprived of the services of Lieutenant Home, who, at the request of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, North-Western Provinces, was, by the orders of the Government of India, transferred to Jhansee. His Excellency the Governor General of India in Council requested the Government of the North-Western Provinces to make such arrangements for the supervision of the works at Bhurtpore as it could; but as the services of a Serjeant were only available, the Durbar determined to place the supervision of the works in the hands of Pundit Shimbo Nath, who has been for some time in the employ of the Durbar, and of whom, as Lieutenant Home's Assistant during the time he was here, that officer formed a very favourable opinion.

72. When you were at Bhurtpore this cold season you strongly advised the young Maharajah and the Council to secure the services of an Uncovenanted Civil Engineer, and this, I hope, will be ultimately done. In the meantime the Council seem desirous of trying how the work will proceed under Shimboo Nath's supervision; and as it is uncertain what the arrangements for another year may be, I have not deemed it necessary to press the matter at present. There is ample work to keep an Engineer Officer employed here for several years to come, but of course no Civil Engineer would take service under the Durbar without a guarantee of employment for a certain number of years.

73. The works reported on last year by Lieutenant Home are all being carried on under instructions left by him; some have been finished, whilst others are in various stages of progress. All the Irrigation Works, set on foot by Lieutenant Home, are receiving careful attention, and as the measures to be adopted for the drainage of the country were tolerably far advanced when Lieutenant Home left, I hope Pundit Shimboo Nath will be able to bring these to completion without difficulty.

74. The works organized by Lieutenant Home for the diversion of the Rivers Ootungun and Gumbheer are now being carried on under the supervision of a Serjeant Caernarton, working under the orders of the Public Works Department, North-Western Provinces. The cost of these works is to be borne, in equal shares, by the Government of the North-Western Provinces and the Durbar, and on this account the works are supervised by an officer of that Government.

75. The bund across the Kakhund River, in the pergunnah of Byana, alluded to in the 11th paragraph of Lieutenant Home's Report for last year, is under construction. At present, and for several months to come, this work can be easily supervised by Pundit Shimboo Nath, but I confess that I should not like to take the responsibility of having the work completed without the supervision of a thoroughly efficient officer well acquainted with Irrigation Works: and it is mainly for works of this kind that an Engineer Officer is so much required.

Roads.

76. I am glad to be able to report that all the roads throughout the State are now in first-rate working order. The road which was under construction between Haleyna and the Jeypore border has been completed, and the mail cart now runs straight through from Agra to Jeypore, a distance of 144 miles. Bullock Trains also have been running for some time; and the Durbars of Jeypore and Bhurtpore are just establishing a line of dâk carriages for the conveyance of travellers backwards and forwards. This will be an immense boon to travellers, as hitherto it has been a work of great difficulty for them to get over the country at all without assistance from the different Chiefs through whose territories they have to pass.

77. Improvements in the city of Bhurtpore are still going on. The new bazaar outside the Muthra gate is very nearly completed, and is a most substantial and handsome pile of buildings, and a great ornament, as being the chief entrance to the city from the Agra side. The paving of the streets in the city is going on, and I hope that in time every street will be paved. This will render the city much

more easy to keep clean, and, as a natural consequence, will, I hope, cause it to be more healthy.

78. Since last year lamps have been placed on other side of the main street of the city, and the people seem thoroughly to appreciate the advantage of having good lamps instead of the wretched little oil affairs that hitherto have sufficed as apologies for them.

Education.

79. It is with pleasure that I have again to report favourably on the progress of education in the Bhurtpore Territory. An enclosure to this Report, marked G. 7, gives the total number of schools, with the number of Hindoo and Mahomedan pupils, the different departments of study, the number of teachers, and the annual expenditure.

80. The number of boys studying in the Bhurtpore College at the close of the last Sumbut year was 342, or an increase of 51 over the number of the previous year. A new building is in course of erection close to the present school, which will, I trust, be completed in all this year. At present want of space is a bar to a larger attendance of pupils. Of the total number in the Bhurtpore College, 75, or nearly 22 per cent., are studying English.

Tehseelee Schools.

81. The number of Tehseelee Schools continues the same as before, *viz.*, 13; but I regret to say that there is a considerable falling off in the number of pupils in these schools, the number on the rolls being 730 this year, against 801 last. The Tehseel Schools are all situated close to the Tehseel buildings at the head-quarters of each pergunnah, and in proportion as the Tehseeldar of the pergunnah favours the progress of education, is the number of pupils at each school. In the Tehseel Schools where the Tehseeldar is a well educated man and desirous of promoting education, there is no diminution in the numbers attending the schools.

82. For the last three years I have had a certain number of the best pupils, those who have passed a good examination, and whose character is good, learning work in my own Office; and as vacancies have arisen in various departments, I have suggested the employment of these boys: in this way several have been provided for. I dare say this is looked upon as an encroachment on their privileges by various officials in the Durbar, and to this cause do I mainly attribute a falling off in the number of scholars at the schools of the head-quarters of pergunnahs.

Hulkabundee Schools.

83. There are 73 Hulkabundee, or purely village schools, which is an increase of 20 over last year. The number of pupils in these schools is 1,454, against 1,046 of last year. This is, I think, a sure sign that the zemindars are beginning to appreciate the benefits of education for their children.

Girls' Schools.

84. Another Girls' School has been established in the city of Bhurtpore, but in both schools the attendence is very small, being only 10 in one and 6 in the other: this is an increase over last year, however, of 9 pupils. There is, I fear, an immense amount of prejudice to be got over before girls will be allowed to attend those schools in any number; but it is something to be able to report a small progressive instead of a retrograde movement, which I was afraid of.

85. Sub-Assistant Surgeon Bholanath Dass continues to supervise all the schools as heretofore, and conducts his duties very much to my satisfaction.

General Remarks.

86. By the Census taken last year the number of boys in the whole district is 144,693, whilst the number of boys in all the schools is only 2,526, which gives only 1·74 per cent. of boys receiving Government education throughout the district. This is a very small percentage indeed, but we must remember that, besides these Government Schools, there are a vast number of other schools. I will endeavour next year to ascertain the number of these and the total number of scholars attending them. Of the total number of boys, Hindoos number 2,106 and Mahomedans 420. The total cost of the schools for Sumbut 1923 is Rupees 11,165-2, which makes the cost of education of each child Rupees 4-6-8 per annum.

Army.

87. The total strength of the army at the close of the Sumbut year 1923 was in all branches 7,529 against 7,560 at the end of Sumbut 1922; the detail is as follows:—

Cavalry 1,604. Infantry 5,674. Artillery 251.

This number includes camp followers, such as classies, water-carriers, sweepers, and others, who number about 850, leaving the total strength of the force to be 6,679.

88. In the late Colonel Eden's Report on the administration of Bhurtpore, submitted to Government last year, he remarked that the cost of the Military Forces was unnecessarily large compared with the income of the State; and added that he considered the maximum limit should not exceed five and a half lakhs of rupees: and I was requested by him to consult with the Council of Regency and endeavour to effect a reduction in the strength of the army.

89. In accordance with these instructions, I brought the matter before the Council of Regency, when they pointed out to me that the large expenditure on account of the army was owing to the late Maharajah having confiscated the lands of 157 villages belonging to jageerdars, which then yielded a revenue of Rupees 1,12,652, and formed the holders of these villages into a Cavalry Force of 700 men.

90. The present expenditure on account of the Army may be put in round numbers at Rupees 6,75,000 annually. If the amount of revenue of the 157 confiscated villages, which at the time of confiscation was calculated at Rupees 1,12,652 (and which is now probably much more), is deducted from the present expenditure, the balance will be Rupees 5,62,348, or a very little more than that suggested as what should be the maximum limit.

91. I am myself of opinion that the expenditure on the army is too large when compared with the income of the State; and I have frequently endeavoured to get the numbers reduced, but, although the Council of Regency always express their willingness to comply with my wishes, I can see that there is no desire in reality to reduce the present numbers. The Maharajah himself does not desire it, and, of course, the Council are considerably biassed by his wishes on all subjects. This is not owing to the Maharajah having any particular personal favour

for the army, or that he has a desire to oppose anything recommended by us, but both he and the Council truly remark, that all the men now employed have ample work to perform, and they therefore hesitate to incur the odium of depriving a certain number of men of the support which they now enjoy.

92. In your interview with the Council, when you were at Bhurtpore in the cold weather, the matter was discussed, the Maharajah being present at the time, and the same arguments brought forward by the Council as I have now reported above. I do not think the expenditure on account of jageerdars is in any other State included in that of the army; and if in Bhurtpore the jageer horse are deducted from the strength of the army, the number would be 5,979, with an expenditure on the same of Rupees 5,62,348.

Jails.

93. A paper marked H.8, an enclosure to this Report, gives the number of prisoners (with the periods of imprisonments) who were confined in the Central Jail of Bhurtpore at Sawur at the close of Sumbut year 1923. There were then 204, whilst, at the end of Sumbut 1922, the number was 182. Of these, there were 191 men, *viz.*, 150 Hindoos and 41 Mahomedans, nine women and four boys, all Hindoos.

94. The health of the jail has been very good throughout the year. Dr. Harvey, the Superintendent, is most attentive to his duties, and, under his management, the jail is kept very clean and neat, and the health of the prisoners is most carefuly attended to.

95. A paper marked I.9, an enclosure to this Report, shows the demand on account of land revenue, as fixed by the last settlement, and of extra items directly connected with the land (as explained by me in my last year's Report, *vide* paragraph 2 of Head E., Fiscal, page 223), the amount of receipts, and the balance both for khalsa and Deorhee villages for Sumbut 1923.

96. The total demand for both was Rupees 18,16,450-11-6. The receipts were Rupees 18,04,824-5-3, leaving the balance, at the close of the year, all of which is recoverable, Rupees 11,626-6-3. Receipts on account of balances of previous years make the total amount of receipts on account of land revenue to be Rupees 18,62,465-2-9.

97. The total demand for khalsa villages was Rupees 16,00,538-0-3, of which Rupees 15,90,972-9-6 were received, leaving a balance due of only Rupees 9,565-6-9. A further sum of Rupees 53,677-2-9, being balances of former years, was collected, which made the grand total of receipts for khalsa villages to be Rupees 16,44,649-12-3.

98. The total demand for the Deorhee villages was Rupees 2,15,912-11-3, *viz.*, Rupees 2,00,863-10-3 actual land revenue, as fixed by settlement, and Rupees 15,049-1, being extra items. Of this, the receipts were Rupees 2,13,851-11-9, leaving the balance to be only Rupees 2,060-15-6.

99. A further sum of Rupees 3,963-10-9, being balance due on account of former years, was paid in by the Deorhee villages during the year under report, making the total receipts for these villages to be Rupees 2,17,815-6-6.

100. The small balances due at the end of the year go far to prove that the last settlement does not bear hard upon the people. They

pay in their revenue cheerfully and of their own accord, and their prosperity cannot, I think, be doubted by those who pass through the State, and see the immense amount of cultivation throughout the country.

101. During the year under report, advances have been made to cultivators for 140 wells. When these are completed, the number of new wells constructed since 1862-63 will be 1,331.

Census.

102. On the night of the 10th of July 1867 a census was taken of the population of the whole of the Bhurtpore territory. Some months previously I summoned before me all the head-men of the different villages, with the Putwarees, and personally explained to them the different reasons that existed for compiling a correct census of the population of the country.

103. The Bhurtpore State is fortunate in its situation, lying, as it does, close alongside British Territory: in consequence, the census did not convey the same feeling of alarm to the inhabitants as it probably would have done to those of other States at a greater distance. Bhurtpore has, on its eastern border, the districts of Agra and Muthra, and on the north it is bounded by the Goorgaon district of the Punjab. The inhabitants of one district have, of course, relations and friends in the other; and as whatever occurs in one place is eagerly made known in another, the people of Bhurtpore quite readily understood what the census, which had already been twice or thrice taken in our own territories, meant.

104. A Statement, marked J.10, is enclosed with this Report: it shows the number of towns and villages; the area of each pergunnah in square miles; the population of each pergunnah in males and females; the number of persons to each square mile; the percentage of females to males; the number of houses, and the average number of persons to each house.

105. As this is the first census that has been taken of the population of the Bhurtpore State, it may not, perhaps, be as correct as it would have been had the persons employed in the work had any previous knowledge of the duty on which they were employed. But I am of opinion that, with one exception, the Returns are tolerably correct: if there are errors, I think they lie rather in under than in over-estimating the population.

106. The exception alluded to in the above paragraph is Bullubgurh, an estate which belongs to Foujdar Goberdhun Singh, one of the chief Sirdars of the Bhurtpore State. The census Returns of the villages belonging to this estate, which are only 14 in number, show a population of 9,999, which gives 436·07 to the square mile, and 714·21 to each village. This number is in excess of the Returns of each pergunnah of Bhurtpore, with the exception of that of Bhurtpore itself, in which the city, of which alone the population is 61,448, is included. On this account, I am inclined to think that the Returns from this estate are exaggerated.

107. The population of the whole district, as you will observe, is 743,710, which gives a population, to each square mile, of 376·74. In comparing the Returns of Bhurtpore with those of the neighbouring

districts of Agra and Muthra, where a census was taken in 1865, I find that the population to the square mile in those districts is—in Muthra, 496, and in Agra 549. This shows a much denser population than that of the Bhurtpore State, and in both districts the area in square miles is less than in that of Bhurtpore.

108. But again, on the other hand, it is, perhaps, not quite fair to compare the Bhurtpore Returns with those of Agra and Muthra, for the cities of both these districts are so much larger than those of Bhurtpore. And again, Bhurtpore has a very large tract of hilly country, which is very sparsely populated. Take, for instance, Byana, which, with an area in square miles of 300·98, has only a population of 76,347, which gives a percentage of only 253·66 inhabitants to each square mile.

109. The percentage of females to males is somewhat less, too, in the Bhurtpore Territory than in those of the neighbouring districts. But I am disposed to think that the Return of females in the present census is not very accurate, and this, I am of opinion, is not to be wondered at, considering the dislike that natives have to give information about their family affairs.

110. The total number of boys, according to the census, was 144,693, whilst that of the girls was only 110,364. In the Returns from Agra and Muthra, I find the number to be 164,549 boys to 124,001 girls in the Muthra District, whilst in that of Agra, the boys number 198,053 to 162,945 girls.

111. This gives a percentage of 76·28 girls to 100· boys in the Bhurtpore State, 75·35 in the Muthra, and 82·27 in the Agra District. I am unable to assign any reason why, amongst the children, the number of boys should so much predominate above that of the girls. In former years infanticide was very common amongst the Jats, but the late Maharajah, Bulwunt Singh, did a great deal towards putting a stop to this crime. It principally existed amongst the Thakoors, who receive from the Durbar a certain amount of money as bounty towards paying the expenses of the marriage of their children, and in order to encourage the Thakoors to preserve the lives of their female children, the Maharajah gave double the amount of bounty money for the marriage of each girl in a Thakoor's family. This, in a great measure, put a stop to infanticide, and I believe that, since we have been governing the country, the crime has altogether died out.

112. I can only account, therefore, for the small proportion of female to male children on the ground, either that they are less cared for, and consequently the mortality is greater amongst them than amongst the boys, or that the Returns are incorrect.

113. The Hindoo population of the Bhurtpore State is 630,242 to 113,445 Mahomedans, which gives a percentage of 18·00 Mahomedans to Hindoos.

114. The Hindoo population muster 326,604 cultivators, and 303,638 non-cultivators; amongst the Mahomedans the cultivators are 58,375, and the non-cultivators 55,070.

115. Of the total Hindoo population, Jats number 122,989, which makes 19·51 per cent. of the whole; Goojurs are 46,865; shop-keepers muster strongly also, being 106,799, or 16·94 per cent. of the whole.

116. Of the Mahomedan population, 47,466, or 41·84 per cent. of the whole, are Meos. These men inhabit the part of the country bordering on the Ulwur State and the Goorgaon District called Mewat, from the majority of the inhabitants belonging to this tribe. They were, as you doubtless know, originally Hindoos, but were converted to Mahomedanism in the time of the Emperor Aurungzebe.

117. I have not deemed it necessary to enter into further detail on the subject of the census. Much might be written on so interesting a topic, but to do so would only swell this Report to an extent which I do not consider desirable.

Railways.

118. During the past cold season several Civil Engineers have been busy at work, taking levels and making plans for the railway, which it is intended should open out to the world the long-closed territories of Rajasthan. The difficulties in the construction of a line of railway through the Bhurtpore State are, I believe, *nil*. I am convinced that, if a light line of railway, such as connects Lucknow and Cawnpore, were constructed between Agra and Bhurtpore, it would be a most paying line, and one which could be constructed in a very short space of time, the distance between the two cities being 32 miles, and the country almost a dead level the whole way.

Extradition Treaty.

119. A Treaty for the mutual surrender, under certain conditions, of criminals taking refuge in territory other than that in which the crime was committed, has been entered into between the British Government and the Bhurtpore State; and, if carried out in its integrity, as I have every hope will be the case, will be the means of bringing to justice offenders who have hitherto, as a rule, escaped the punishment due to their crimes.

120. I must now bring this Report to a close; but, before doing so, would desire to make a few remarks concerning the future Ruler of the State, Maharajah Jeswunt Singh.

Maharajah Jeswunt Singh.

121. On the 1st of March last, the Maharajah completed his seventeenth year. The time is, therefore, now drawing nigh when, I conclude, the government of the country will be made over to him, and it will be necessary to decide upon the retention or otherwise of this Agency.

122. For the past two years I have endeavoured, to the best of my ability, to make the Maharajah thoroughly acquainted with the working of the administration as it has been carried on throughout the minority. He has constantly been in the habit of sitting with me during my Office hours, and has been encouraged by me in every way to take an interest in the government of his country.

123. The Maharajah has no very grave faults that I am aware of. He is *gauche* in manner, and has not much to say for himself before strangers, but with those whom he knows well, he is communicative enough. He is excessively fond of riding and driving; indeed, I think he takes more interest in horses than in anything else at present: he neither smokes, drinks, nor chews pawn, and his moral character I believe to be excellent.

124. As you are aware, His Highness had a son born to him on the 26th of January last. I consider this a very fortunate circumstance,

for it has increased the feeling of liking towards his wife; and, I trust, will be the means of keeping him as steady in the future as he has been in the past.

125. But the future career of a young Chief, when once released from all control and left to contend against the many snares that will beset his path, cannot be looked upon, I think, without alarm. The Maharajah, too, is peculiarly unfortunate in having no near connections of tried character, in whom he would be inclined to trust, or who would endeavour to keep him in the right path, did they see him going astray; whilst, on the other hand, the number of those who are looking forward to the time when they may hope, by their bad councils and evil example, to debauch the young Chief, and place him under their influence, is legion.

126. The Maharajah is excessively fond of travelling; and I consider it a source of much regret that he was unable to carry out the desire that he entertained last year of visiting Europe. If, after he comes of age, he still retain this desire, I think it would be wise to encourage it as much as possible, for a visit to Europe at his age would tend more to form his character and give him enlightened ideas than anything else, whilst he would be withdrawn, for a time, from the evil influences which are sure to surround him whenever he attains to power. I fear, however, the prejudices against crossing the sea are still so strong, and the arguments which would be brought forward by his wife, the members of her family, and his people generally, would be so weighty, that the Maharajah would be unable to contend against them.

127. I have known the Maharajah since the time when he was only five years old, and have lived at Bhurtpore since 1859, when he was only nine years old. In consequence, I have considerable influence over him, and take a deep interest in his future welfare. If he only continues to live in all his future years as he has done in the few past, the Bhurtpore State will, I hope, be enabled to show to what prosperity a country governed by an enlightened, honest, and upright native Ruler, may attain.

A. 1.—*Vide* paragraph 21.

Return showing the receipts and expenditure of the Bhurtpore State for Sumbut 1923, *or from the* 25*th September* 1866 *to the* 13*th September* 1867.

Receipts.				Expenditure.			
Heads.	Amount.			Heads.	Amount.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*		*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Land Revenue	16,44,649	12	3	Land Revenue	1,58,431	3	9
Other items of Income from pergunnahs	90,215	11	3	Salt	14,853	15	0
Salt	2,54,604	0	6	Customs	53,100	12	3
Customs	2,47,816	13	3	Administration and Public Departments	87,956	4	9
Administration and Public Departments	17,382	3	3	Public Works Department	1,63,460	0	3
Public Works Department	2,971	14	6	Miscellaneous	2,12,267	15	9
Mint	2,866	10	9	Religious and charitable grants	84,180	6	6
Miscellaneous	10,511	3	9	Civil list	1,58,143	2	0
				Army	6,58,913	7	3
				Police	1,13,265	6	6
				Pensions	11,333	6	9
				Communications	4,44,997	2	9
				Education	14,071	3	9
				Medical services	15,635	7	9
				Buildings	1,03,940	3	9
				Stationery	4,190	11	3
				Foreign services	12,291	1	3
Total	22,71,018	5	6	Total	23,11,031	15	3
Receipts of Deorhee villages	2,17,815	6	6	Expenditure on the Deorhee	2,17,815	6	6
Advances to cultivators	81,534	4	3	Advances to cultivators	48,998	8	0
Loans	66,550	8	6	Loans	41,774	8	3
Grand total	26,36,918	8	9	Grand total	26,19,620	6	0

Balance of receipts over expenditure, Rupees 17,298-2-9.

B. 2.—*Vide* paragraph 22.

Statement showing the trade of Bhurtpore for Sumbut 1923.

	Amount in Tons.	Custom Duty.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Imports	16,848	75,613	9	8
Exports	17,598	44,400	10	4
Through traffic	11,679	70,556	9	10
Internal trade	27,651	57,245	15	5
Total ...	73,776	2,47,816	13	3
		Income from Bhurtpore salt.		
Bhurtpore Salt, mostly exports ...	50,425	2,54,604	0	6
Grand total ...	1,24,201	5,02,420	13	9

C. 3.—*Vide* paragraph 43.

Analysis of Criminal Cases for Sumbut 1923.

No.	Name of Court.	Balance of last year.	Cases instituted during the year.	Grand Total.	Description of Crime.																																Total.	Balance.
					Wilful Murder.	Wounding with attempt to kill.	Culpable homicide not amounting to murder.	Highway robbery.	Burglary.	Theft.	Cattle-theft.	Abduction.	Purchasing stolen property knowing it to be stolen.	Affray.	Incendiarism.	Causing hurt.	Uttering base coin.	Rape.	House-trespass.	Breach of betrothal.	Administration of poison.	Bribery.	Miscellaneous.	Harbouring offenders.	Offering resistance to officers of Government.	Attempt at suicide.	Forgery.	Khoi-killing.	Gambling.	Giving less than weight.	Petty thefts.	Plundering.	Causing abortion.	Defamation of character.						
1	Political Agent	1	88	89	39	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	5	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82	0
2	Council of Regency ...	0	32	32	0	0	0	0	0	14	4	4	0	0	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	53	0
3	Moonsurrim of Deorhee ...	0	85	85	1	3	0	0	0	14	47	0	1	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	85	0
4	Tehseeldar of Salt ...	0	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	0
	Total ...	0	164	164	1	3	0	0	0	56	51	4	2	0	16	13	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	164	0
5	Magistrate of Bhurtpore ...	15	643	658	56	1	0	0	0	93	38	9	0	85	19	113	0	16	0	0	0	6	7	72	0	10	57	7	9	4	2	21	10	3	5	654	4
6	Subordinate Courts ...	8	2,000	2,009	1	4	0	0	1	352	254	13	9	11	16	540	1	5	22	39	0	6	691	4	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,991	18
	Total ...	15	2,652	2,667	57	5	0	0	1	445	312	22	9	96	35	653	1	21	22	39	0	16	705	4	17	63	7	9	4	2	21	10	3	5	2,645	22
7	Magistrate of Deeg ...	0	224	224	1	0	0	0	0	45	74	6	0	0	0	85	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	7	0	224	0
8	Subordinate Courts ...	0	1,037	1,037	0	6	0	1	1	215	109	4	0	25	3	489	1	18	14	0	0	5	0	0	8	57	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	903	69
	Total ...	0	1,261	1,261	1	6	0	1	1	260	183	4	0	25	3	574	1	20	14	0	0	5	0	0	10	57	0	8	5	0	5	0	7	0	1,127	69
	Grand Total ...	16	4,165	4,181	79	14	16	10*	2	761	546	30	11	165	55	1,240	2	43	36	39	7	28	764	4	28	125	8	18	9	6	24	10	12	5	4,009	91

D. 4.—*Vide* paragraph 44.

Statement showing the number of persons under trial, convicted, discharged, and punished in the various Courts of the Bhurtpore State for Sumbut 1923.

1.	2.	3.	4.					5.										6.
Number.	Designation of Court.	No. of prisoners under trial at the close of Sumbut 1922.	No. Disposed of in Sumbut 1923.					Detail of Sentences passed.										Remaining under trial at the close of the year.
			Convicted.	Acquitted.	Died.	Escaped.	Transferred.	Death.	Imprisonment for life.	14 years and under.	10 years and under.	5 years and under.	2 years and under.	1 year and under.	Six months and under.	Flogged.	Fined.	Total.	
1	Political Agent	1	61	21	1	0	6	0	0	0	1	9	3	9	7	0	32	89	None.
2	Council of Regency	0	49	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	4	0	0	33	52	„
3	Magistrate of Bhurtpore	15	471	156	1	12	14	0	0	0	0	6	14	18	68	30	335	654	4
4	Subordinate Courts	0	603	1,384	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	580	1,991	18
5	Magistrate of Deeg	0	146	78	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	13	33	26	15	56	224	None.
6	Subordinate Courts	0	398	557	0	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	379	968	69 *
7	Moonsurrim of Deorhee	0	73	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	65	83	None.
8	Tehseeldar of Salt	0	26	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	29	„
	Total ...	16	1,827	2,211	2	28	22	0	0	0	1	19	41	64	151	45	1,506	4,090	91

* Of whom 63 were on security. The cases have since been decided.

E. 5.—*Vide* paragraph 64.

Statement of the number of Villages held by Thakoors being relations of the present and previous Rulers.

No.	Names.	Villages.	Amount in money.		
			Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
1	Rajah Duryao Singh	2	4,000	0	0
2	Thakoor Maharaj Singh and others ...	4	4,251	0	0
3	Ditto Shimboo Singh	2	6,000	0	0
4	Widow of Thakoor Dhokul Singh ...	1	1,500	0	0
5	Thakoor Bulwunt Singh and others ...	2½	4,501	0	0
6	Ditto Sireegobind	1	4,000	0	0
7	Ditto Radha Kishen	1	1,000	0	0
8	Ditto Chutter Singh	1	1,500	0	0
9	Ditto Ujee Chund	1	1,200	0	0
10	Ditto Tej Singh	1	1,000	0	0
11	Ditto Punchum Singh	1	1,500	0	0
12	Ditto Roognath Singh and others ...	2	1,500	0	0
13	Ditto Sookhdeo Singh	1	1,400	0	0
14	Ditto Kasree Singh	2	1,800	0	0
15	Ditto Mehtab Singh	2	2,000	0	0
16	Ditto Gungabux	1½	5,618	12	0
17	Widow of Thakoor Girwur Singh ...	2	2,071	0	0
18	Thakoor Hurmohun Singh	1	2,000	0	0
	Total ...	29	46,841	12	0

F. 6.—*Vide* paragraph 66.

Statement showing the number of Villages in the Bhurtpore Territory, the number Khalsa and the number Maafee, with the amount at which the whole are valued.

No.	Holders of Villages.	Amount in money.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
71⅓	Sirdars and others, not Thakoors	1,29,853	8	0
52⅔	For maintenance of temples	46,514	0	0
44	Enamees and others in lieu of service ...	95,772	0	0
175	For maintenance of the Maharanee and establishment	2,00,863	10	3
29	Thakoors, relatives of the Chief	46,841	0	0
999	Khalsa or Crown villages	14,78,348	5	6
1,371	Total ...	19,98,192	7	9

G. 7.—*Vide* paragraph 79.

Annual Return of Schools in the Bhurtpore State for Sumbut year 1923.

Number.	Heads.	Hindoos.	Mahomedans.	Total.	Departments.				No. of teachers.	Annual Expenditure.		
					English.	Sanscrit.	Persian.	Hindee.				
										Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
1	Bhurtpore College	268	74	342	75	29	135	103	17	3,703	13	3
13	Tehseelee Schools	549	181	730	0	0	321	409	30	2,716	2	5
73	Hulkabundee do.	1,289	165	1,454	0	0	260	1,194	80	4,186	12	10
2	Girls' Schools ...	11	5	16	0	0	0	16	2	119	11	6
2	Visitors ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	438	10	0
	Total ...	2,117	425	2,542	75	29	716	1,722	129	11,165	2	0

H. 8.—*Vide* paragraph 93.

Statement showing the number of Prisoners in the Sawur Jail, with periods of imprisonment.

Number.	Terms.	Hindoos.			Mahomedans.			Total.
		Men.	Women.	Boys.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	
1	Life Prisoners ...	10	4	2	4	...	...	20
2	14 Years... ...	4	1	1	1	...	...	7
3	10 Ditto... ...	2	0	...	1	...	...	3
4	7 Ditto... ...	6	0	...	...	...	...	6
5	5 Ditto... ...	5	0	...	2	...	...	7
6	4 Ditto... ...	1	0	...	...	...	...	1
7	3 Ditto... ...	12	1	...	9	...	...	22
8	2½ Ditto... ...	2	0	...	...	...	...	2
9	2¼ Ditto... ...	0	0	...	1	...	...	1
10	2 Ditto... ...	17	0	...	1	...	...	18
11	1½ Ditto... ...	9	0	...	2	...	...	11
12	1 Year... ...	39	1	1	17	...	...	58
13	6 Months ...	27	2	...	3	...	...	32
14	Under 6 months ...	16	0	...	...	...	...	16
	Total ...	150	9	4	41	...	...	204

I. 9.—*Vide* paragraph 95.

Statement showing the Income of the Bhurtpore State from Land Revenue, with the Receipts for Sumbut 1923 *and the Balance due.*

Heads.	Demand of Land Revenue for Sumbut 1923.	Demand of Sawae items for Sumbut 1923.	Total of both.	Receipts of both for Sumbut 1923.	Receipts of Balance of former years in 1923.	Total Receipts.	Total Balance.
	Rs. a. p.	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*
Khalsa villages ...	14,78,348 5 6	1,22,189 10 9	16,00,538 0 3	15,90,972 9 6	53,677 2 9	16,44,649 12 3	9,565 6 9
Deorhee villages ...	2,00,863 10 3	15,049 1 0	2,15,912 11 3	2,13,851 11 9	3,963 10 9	2,17,815 6 6	2,060 15 6
Total ...	16,79,211 15 9	1,37,238 11 9	18,16,450 11 6	18,04,824 5 3	57,640 13 6	18,62,465 2 9	11,626 6 3

J. 10.—*Vide* paragraph 102.

Statement showing the results of the Census of the population taken at Bhurtpore on the night of the 10th of July 1867.

District.	Pergunnah.	Number of Mouzahs or Townships.	Area in square British Statute miles of 640 acres each.	Population. Total.	Population. Males.	Population. Females.	Number of persons to each square British Statute mile of 640 acres.	Proportion of Males to Females. Males.	Proportion of Males to Females. Females.	Number of houses.	Average number of persons to each house.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
Bhurtpore.	Akeyghur ...	91	141·36	51,294	27,697	23,597	362·86	100·00	85·20	6,583	7·79
	Bhurtpore ...	179	257·12	144,778	78,470	66,308	563·08	100·00	84·50	23,783	6·10
	Bhoosawur ...	87	127·81	50,390	27,276	23,114	394·26	100·00	84·74	5,943	8·47
	Byana ...	173	300·98	76,347	41,918	34,429	253·66	100·00	82·13	8,277	9·22
	Bullubghur ...	14	22·93	9,999	5,395	4,604	436·07	100·00	85·34	1,223	8·17
	Deeg ...	112	194·48	77,003	41,761	35,242	395·94	100·00	84·39	9,992	7·70
	Gopalghur ...	142	145·29	50,794	27,224	23,570	349·60	100·00	86·58	12,651	4·01
	Koombhere ...	102	161·59	69,587	37,236	32,351	430·64	100·00	86·88	8,640	8·07
	Kama ...	121	131·74	43,116	23,045	20,071	327·28	100·00	87·09	5,147	8·37
	Nuggur ...	80	80·75	29,567	16,124	13,443	366·15	100·00	83·37	3,470	8·52
	Oochein ...	91	129·24	50,504	27,104	23,400	390·78	100·00	86·33	11,714	4·31
	Paharee ...	77	101·50	31,427	16,844	14,583	309·63	100·00	86·58	3,857	8·14
	Roopbass ...	68	115·87	36,322	19,879	16,443	313·47	100·00	82·71	9,667	3·75
	Weir ...	34	63·41	22,582	12,133	10,449	356·13	100·00	86·12	3,169	7·12
	Total ...	1,371	1,974·07	743,710	402,106	341,604	376·74	100·00	84·95	114,116	6·51

Bhurtpore,
The 16th April 1868.

C. K. M. Walter, *Capt.*,
Political Agent.

TONK REPORT.

No. 67, dated 9th May 1868.

From—Lieut. J. J. Blair, Asstt. Agent, Govr. Genl., on Special Duty at Tonk.

To—Captain A. N. Bruce, Political Agent, Haraotee.

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter No. 83, of the 15th ultimo, I have the honor to submit a Report on the Tonk State for the year 1867-68.

Being the first Report on this principality, I have taken the liberty of entering into further details than I should have otherwise thought it my duty to do.

TONK.

Area and Divisions.

1. The territories of this principality are comprised of the six following detached districts, scattered at varying intervals throughout Rajpootana and Central India:—

Tonk.	Seronge.
Rampoora.	Chuppra.
Neembhera.	Perawa.

the whole containing an area estimated at about 2,370 square miles.

Boundaries.

2. Tonk and Rampoora are but 20 miles apart, and project into the Jeypore Chiefship immediately south of the capital of that State, with Boondee on one flank. To the south-west and south-east, at distances of about 140 and 160 miles respectively, lie Neembhera and Seronge. The former is encircled by Meywar and Jawud Neemuch; and the latter, girt in by Scindhia's dominions in Eastern Malwa and by Bhopal, almost borders on the Betwa and the Saugor District. Midway between Neembhera and Seronge, and upwards of 80 miles from either, we meet Perawa, bounded by the possessions of Scindhia, Holkar, and Jhallawar; whilst Chuppra forms a connecting link between Tonk and Seronge, dividing Jhallawar from the Keechee feudatories of the Gwalior State.

Natural and physical characteristics.

3. The natural and physical characteristics of each district materially differ; yet they all in so far resemble in that they are favoured with good soil and excellent water.

Tonk and Rampoora.

4. Tonk and Rampoora are flat and open, but are here and there broken by ridges of bare rocky hills. The capital itself clusters picturesquely at the base of one of such groups. The eastern border of Rampoora is formed by the watershed of a considerable range of wooded hills, which, attaining an altitude of about 1,000 feet above the surrounding country, run from Boondee in a direction parallel to the course of the Chumbul. The soil of both these districts is fertile, though somewhat light, being composed of a mixture of sand and black alluvium.

In places the sand predominates; in others the black soil. Water is generally near the surface, and is for the most part of good quality.

Brackish water is, however, by no means uncommon, and in localities it is found in close proximity to sweet water. For example, at Tonk, on one side of a stone quarry close to the town, the wells are all sweet, whilst on the opposite side the water contains such strong saline elements as to be undrinkable.

Neembhera and Perawa.

5. Neembhera and Perawa are famous for their rich black soil, peculiarly adapted for the culture of opium.

The Government demand on the best land often exceeds Rupees 30 the acre. Trap rock abounds.

Seronge.

6. But in point of soil, Seronge can well bear comparison with either. It is justly regarded as being the most naturally favoured district of the State, as well as being the largest in area. Its general aspect is that of rolling uplands of rich black alluvium clothed with vast sheets of luxuriant grass, or standing wheat and gram, studded with handsome plantations of mangoes, mhowa, tamarind, burr, and peepul, and intersected by numerous rippling brooks which flow throughout the year. Towards the southern and western border, the country becomes hilly and is covered with jungle, in which teak and ebony can be found; a broad ridge of laterite crops up near the town of Seronge. The altitude of the district is as much as 1,800 feet above the sea in places, but the average level may be held at about 1,500 feet.

The rain-fall is heavy; the crops are constantly injured by the excess of fall, but rarely or never from its scarcity.

Chuppra.

7. The northern and central parts of Chuppra are open, fertile, and well cultivated. The soil is black alluvium, but not, perhaps, of the first quality.

Towards the south the district is broken up by ranges of hills.

Teak is abundant in localities, but it is invariably cut down, as in Seronge, before it attains any dimensions. Whether the climate and soil are adapted for the produce of really fine teak timber may, perhaps, be a question, but that teak will attain a considerable size, is proved by the fact that in some shooting preserves in Kotah territory close to the Chuppra District, where the felling of timber is interdicted, there now exist hundreds of young teak trees, which, growing with clean straight stems, are certainly 30 to 35 feet high and a foot to a foot and a half thick. I am also told, on reliable authority, that "Tendoo" trees yielding a good heart of ebony are to be found at a place in Scindhia's territory near Chuppra, where the trees are conserved.

Rivers.

8. The only rivers in the State are the Bunas and the Parbutty: the former, which passes through the Tonk District, runs in a sandy bed and is fordable at knee depth during the winter and summer; but during the monsoon it becomes a swift and angry torrent of upwards of half a

mile in width. The Parbutty forms the eastern frontier of Chuppra; it is a picturesque river, here separating into many small streams which bound and bubble in rocky channels, there swelling out into a broad expanse of almost stagnant water bounded in with high grasses, banks finely wooded, whilst ever and anon islets are to be met clothed with the emerald jamun and other trees.

Population.

Census.

9. In 1862 A. D., the late Nawab Wuzeer-ood-dowla caused a census to be taken throughout the State. The manner of effecting it was simple. Orders were merely issued to Amils to number the inhabitants of their respective districts, it being left to them to make the best arrangements with the limited means at their disposal.

These officers appointed enumerators from amongst their subordinates, whose duty it was to visit house by house in every town or village in their circles, noting the number of residents in each, with other particulars. No special day was fixed for the census; and as the enumerators were few, the work occupied them from one to three weeks.

The results of so rude a procedure could not, of course, be accurate; nevertheless, they may be regarded as being fairly correct, and sufficiently so, perhaps, for all practical purposes.

Results of the census.

By this census the population stood as follows:—

Tonk	112,634
Rampoora	17,631
Chuppra	35,474
Neembhera	45,979
Perawa	34,300
Seronge	74,401
Total ...	320,419

or an average of 135 persons to the square mile.

Estimate of present population.

10. Excepting in the Seronge District, I am inclined to believe that the population has not materially varied since the census was taken. During the last two years, it is true that a considerable number of persons, especially from the agricultural classes, have emigrated in consequence of new exactions imposed on them, but we have as a set-off the annual increase to the population which ordinarily occurs, unless a country is afflicted by war, pestilence, or, above all, by famine.

Population of Seronge.

11. In Seronge, however, the population has fallen off to a serious extent, and it is the more to be lamented, because this district, although possessing a fine soil and great capabilities, is far more thinly inhabited than any other in this State. General opinion set down the annual decrease at a high and increasing figure. That the real facts might be ascertained,

a census was ordered and taken last month in the same manner as the previous one, the Returns of which showed the following totals:—

	Population of Town.	Population of District.	Total.
Census of 1862	... 13,537	... 60,864	... 74,401
Census of 1868	... 9,674	... 51,818	... 61,492
Decrease	... 3,863	... 9,046	... 12,909

In other words, the population had declined upwards of 16 per cent. in six years.

Cause of decrease in population.

12. This unsatisfactory result, in so far as concerns the country population, has been mainly brought about by oppressive rents and irregular and unjust taxation, coupled with several successive bad seasons. The affection borne by the native husbandman of India for the land which his forefathers tilled and for the village in which they lived and died, is so powerful and so deeply imbued in his very being, that the strongest pressure will alone drive him away; and in Seronge at least it has been the irresistible force of absolute want, arising mainly from the causes above indicated, that has compelled so large a number of cultivators to leave their homes. The great bulk of the emigrants have settled in Bhopal, where, under the enlightened rule of Her Highness the Begum, they obtain land on favourable tenures. Yet I am satisfied that, so soon as the present administration of this State shall have given assurance by acts, not words, that it seeks to ameliorate the condition of its subjects, no inconsiderable number of the emigrants will return to their ancestral homes.

Decrease in town population.

13. The population of the town of Seronge has been on the decline for a long period. At one time it supported a Turkish bath, and tradition says it contained 50,000 houses. This is doubtless an exaggeration, but there is reason to believe that a century ago the inhabitants did not number less than 50,000.

* Tavernier in 17th century. Tieffenthaler.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries it was a place of much importance, and as such mentioned by European travellers* of those times, who spoke of it as being crowded with merchants and artizans, and famous for its muslins and chintzs. The present appearance of the town is desolate in the extreme; whole quarters of the city are in ruins; in others, streets of deserted houses with doors still barred and locked give evidence of more recent emigrations.

Cause of decline in the population.

14. But this lamentable decline has not arisen, I think, from oppression exercised on the inhabitants, but from natural causes, coupled with the depressed condition of the district.

In days of yore a large division of troops was maintained at Seronge; the Emperors themselves occasionally honored the city with visits, and in this manner a stream of fertilizing capital flowed in, whilst abundant crops from the surrounding country rendered all grain singularly cheap and plentiful. But how different is it now! Not only has the influx of

capital long ceased, but under a grinding assessment the profits of labour have been annually wrung from the people and remitted to Tonk and there spent; and on the one hand, whilst employment has yearly decreased, on the other the price of food has, as elsewhere throughout India, vastly increased, forcing artizans and others to Saugur and Bhopal, where employment is abundant.

Although it is very improbable that the town will ever regain its size and opulence in even comparatively recent years, yet we may hope that measures tending to the prosperity of the district will not be without effect on the city, and will prevent its further decline.

Census Returns of 1862 meagre.

15. The statistical information obtained by the census of 1862 is meagre and incomplete. In some districts the numbers of houses and residents were alone recorded; in others the proportion of the sexes and castes were also noted.

Distribution of population.

16. The population is distributed amongst 1,143 towns and villages as follows:—

	Population.	No. of towns and villages.	Average No. of souls in town and village.	Average population to the square mile.
Tonk ...	112,634	... 248	... 454	... 256
Rampoora ...	17,631	... 62	... 286	... 88
Chuppra ...	35,474	... 170	... 208	... 104
Neembhera ...	45,979	... 210	... 219	... 142
Perawa ...	34,300	... 121	... 283	... 138
Seronge ...	61,492	... 332	... 185	... 75
Total ...	307,510	... 1,143	... 269	... 129

The area of each district has been calculated from the Government map of Rajpootana.

I am by no means prepared to state that this map is even approximately correct, but I think it may be fairly assumed that it is so, and at all events far more accurate than the measurements recorded in the Offices of canoongoes, which I look upon as wholly valueless, except in so far as they exhibit the proportion of cultivated land to that lying waste in each pergunnah.

Density of the population.

17. The density of the population of the various districts appears tolerably accurate, and bears a near relation to their comparative prosperity.

Although the average population in the Tonk District exceeds that of Great Britain, which is 237 to the square mile, it is far below the North-Western Provinces, where the average is 438 to the square mile.

On the other hand, the population in Seronge, the most sparsely inhabited district of the State, and which lies near the frontier of the Central Provinces, closely approaches the density of the population in those provinces, where by the last census 79 persons to the square mile were recorded.

18. The urban population is on the whole small compared with the rural. Each district has a country town bearing its name, thus—

Urban population.

	Population.
Tonk	38,580
Rampoora	3,600
Chuppra	4,577
Seronge	9,674
Perawa ... ... } Unrecorded in last census.	
Neembhera ... ... }	

Beyond these there are no towns worthy to be so called.

19. I am unable to furnish any statistics of the total numbers of the various castes composing the population of the State, for, as stated in paragraph 15, such Returns were only prepared in some pergunnahs. Although it is a Mahomedan Principality, in which proselytism obtains to a large extent, the great bulk of the rural population remains Hindoo. For example, in the Rampoora District, amongst a rural population of 14,000, the Mahomedans numbered only 364, or 2·6 per cent. I am inclined to think, however, that in other districts, especially Tonk and Seronge, the proportion is considerably higher. The Mahomedan element is much stronger in towns than in the country. Upwards of 600 Mussulmans were recorded in the city of Rampoora, or 17 per cent. of the population, and I am sure that in Tonk the proportion is not less than 25 or 30 per cent.

Proportion of castes.

20. The Tonk Family is of Puthan extraction. In the reign of the Emperor Mahomed Shah Ghazi, Taleh Khan, grandfather of Nawab Ameer Khan, left his home in the village of Choorhur of Bonair, and, proceeding to India as a soldier of fortune, took service in Rohilcund with Ali Mahomed Khan, a Rohilla of distinction, under whose banner he rendered himself conspicuous for daring and bravery.

Tonk Family.

Hyder Khan, Taleh Khan's son, became possessed of landed property in Sumbul of Moradabad, and was more esteemed as a Moulvee of some learning than famous as a soldier. To him was born in A. D. 1766 Ameer Khan, the founder of the Tonk State. It is needless to refer to the extraordinary career and exploits of this great partizan Chief, for they have found a place in the page of history.

21. Although a century and a quarter has elapsed since Taleh Khan left Bonair, yet friendly relations and communications are still maintained between Tonk and the Bonairwal; the Sittana fanatics have had, perhaps, no warmer sympathizers in India than in the Tonk Wahabees. The Ex-Nawab was and is a bigoted adherent of the sect, and is the author of a large volume in defence of its tenets.

Relations maintained with Bonair.

22. I append a Genealogical Tree * of the Tonk Family; it will be observed that there are living at this time no less than 152 direct descendants of Nawab Ameer Khan. With a few exceptions, they are all supported by the State.

Descendants of Nawab Ameer Khan.

* Appendix A.

Administration.

23. I now proceed to the unpleasant task of describing briefly, and it may be imperfectly, the salient and most noticeable features in the administration of the State during 1867.

Ex-Nawab's policy.

24. The Nawab's policy since his accession seems to have centered in one all-engrossing desire to increase the revenue. To this end all considerations bowed, and whilst the people were severely pressed by new imposts and exactions, the Nawab, labouring under a strange hallucination, strove to persuade himself that by forcing a few hamlets and bazars into existence the prosperity of the State was being increased.

Dismissal of old ministers.

25. Prior to the year under report almost all the old ministers and officials had been removed, and more subservient men filled their places. District officers were constantly changed; their tenure of office entirely depended on the amount of extraordinary revenue they raised. Every available resource for wringing money from jageerdars and cultivators was resorted to, and so severe became the strain, that, had the pressure continued another year, at least two districts would have collapsed.

On visiting Seronge last month, I found many respectable jageerdars lacking the bare necessities of life.

The Tonk Kotwal.

26. At Tonk itself the City Kotwal, one Nussur-ood-deen, cruelly oppressed the inhabitants. No man or woman felt safe, it is said, from his tyranny and insult. He was universally detested; yet he was a favourite with his master, because, I believe, he well understood how money could be extracted from the people by fines inflicted on one and every pretext.

Administration of justice.

27. The administration of justice was quite on a par with that of other departments. Cases were disposed of by the favourite Moulvee of the hour, whose verdicts rested with the longest purse. Shortly after my arrival here, I asked Sahibzadah Ibadallah Khan for a return of criminal cases and civil suits disposed of last year, and the simplicity in his eyes of my request afforded that gentleman considerable amusement.

Ex-Nawab's religious intolerance.

28. The Nawab further rendered himself unpopular amongst his Hindoo subjects by his intolerance in religious matters. The buildings of all temples was not only straitly forbidden, but the mere ordinary repairs, or even whitewashing, of those in existence interdicted, whilst an apostate to Mahomedism was sure to find favour and obtain pecuniary reward.

Feeling of the peoples towards the new administration.

29. It is not surprising then that people of all classes hailed and welcomed the change of Government on the Nawab's deposition. Many interests have of necessity been affected, but nevertheless there has been no display of discontent from any side, and the satisfaction of the masses has been abundantly apparent. A measure of sympathy will always attend fallen greatness, especially amongst Asiatics, and the Ex-Nawab studiously sought to gain it. All new cesses and imposts were remitted prior to his departure, and he sought the good will of his relatives by the grant of new jageers and by transforming their life jageer into jageers for perpetuity.

30. Yet there were strong points in the Ex-Nawab's administration which deserve commendation. The finances of the State remained no longer neglected, as in his predecessor's time; the expenditure was curtailed, and the State debt considerably reduced. He was also imbued with a passion for public improvements. Under his orders a very handsome new quarter to the town was planned and constructed, every wealthy person in Tonk being compelled to build a house in it of the same form and design; two large mosques were partially erected; a new dispensary was commenced; the centre road of the town metalled; and encouragement afforded to private individuals in laying out a series of gardens near the city. He also took great interest in the efficiency of his troops, and caused them to be drilled and disciplined.

Points worthy of commendation in Ex-Nawab's administration.

31. Since the Ex-Nawab's deposition, the administration of the State has been conducted by Sahibzadah Ibadallah Khan, the eldest surviving son of Nawab Ameer Khan, and granduncle to the present Chief, Ibrahim Ali Khan. The Sahibzadah is assisted by a Council of four members as follows:—

Formation of new administration. Regency Council.

Sahibzadah Ibadallah Khan, brother of the Ex-Nawab.

Sahibzadah Wuzeer Mahomed Khan, father-in-law of the present Chief.

Sahibzadah Ahmed Yar Khan, son-in-law of Nawab Ameer Khan, and consequently granduncle by marriage of Ibrahim Ali Khan.

Mahomed Zhor Ali, an old and respected servant of the State, who, some 25 years ago, was a Sudder Ameen under our Government.

32. All appointments and promotions are made by Sahibzadah Ibadallah Khan, who has no executive charge in the State, but maintains a general supervision over all departments.

Executive Officers.

The Revenue Office has been entrusted to Ibadallah Khan.

Ahmed Yar Khan is the head of the Army and Police.

The Judicial Department on the criminal side is under Wuzeer Mahomed Khan, and on the civil side under Mahomed Zhor Ali.

A staff of an Amil, Peshkar, and Kotwal, with suitable Office establishment, is maintained in each of the six districts of Tonk.

33. The powers of Amils are restricted on the criminal side to one year's imprisonment and fine of Rupees 100; on the civil side to suits not exceeding Rupees 5,000 in value.

Powers of officers.

The Amil of Rampoora has, however, only powers of six months' imprisonment and Rupees 50 fine, and civil suits up to Rupees 2,000.

A distinction has been made on account of the comparative smallness of the Rampoora District and its proximity to the capital.

Peshkars are invested with criminal powers of two months' imprisonment and fine of Rupees 30, and civil suits not exceeding Rupees 500.

Appeals from the decisions of Peshkars are heard by Amils, and appeals from Amils lay in the Courts of the Criminal and Civil Members of the Council respectively, who also dispose of cases and suits beyond the competency of District Officers.

Working of Courts.

34. The above-mentioned Courts, which have only recently been established, give promise of working well and satisfactorily.

Working of Regency Council.

35. Of the Council itself I can speak most favourably. A better selection of Members could not, I think, have been made, though they are not free from the great failing which besets the officials of Native States. A cordial desire has been exhibited on the part of all to work harmoniously and well, and in due subordination to Sahibzadah Ibadallah Khan; and for my part I can say that all suggestions I have offered have met willing and ready attention. The Sahibzadah himself, though of a slow disposition, is undoubtedly the most influential as well as most respected person in the State, not only as being the oldest surviving son of Nawab Ameer Khan, but on account of his private character. For thirty years he held charge of the Tonk District as Amil, and it is rarely one meets in a Native Chiefship with so popular a District Officer as he was.

The Jail.

36. The Jail at Tonk consists of a rectangular court-yard of considerable dimensions, with buildings along one face for the prisoners. The accommodation is amply sufficient for the number of prisoners ordinarily under confinement. As is usual in Native States, the prisoners provide their own maintenance. If a prisoner has no means, or friends who will assist him, a subsistence allowance from the Durbar is granted. The number of prisoners in Jail at the close of the year was 17, of which 7 were men whose cases were pending investigation. The Ex-Nawab, prior to his departure, released all the then prisoners, except a few, who had been guilty of heinous crimes.

Revenue.

The Revenue.

37. The revenue of the State is divided into two main heads: "Mal," or land revenue, which forms the great bulk of the income, and "Sewae," or extraordinary. The latter includes Customs, Stamps, Mint, Fines, Nuzzerana, and multifarious petty dues which are to be found in the receipts of all Native Principalities.

Land Revenue.

38. The land revenue is raised on various systems; in some districts a money assessment alone obtains; in others the revenue is realized wholly in produce, whilst in some the Government demand is taken partly in money and partly in kind. But there exists in all a traditional rate of assessment, whether in coin or produce, which is accepted by the cultivator as being fair and equitable; and although the proportion that this rate of assessment bears to the capabilities of the soil is undoubtedly heavy when compared with the assessment generally prevailing in British territory, still no question is raised as to the right of the Government to levy the revenue in accordance with it. But

when the demand is further increased either directly or indirectly by supplementary imposts, dissatisfaction arises.

Farmers of revenue.

39. Between the Government and the cultivators there stands a class of speculators, who farm the revenue; but before touching on their connection with the State, I propose to describe briefly the traditional rates of assessment alluded to, which in theory form the basis on which the Government demand is calculated and fixed.

Traditional rate of assessment in the Tonk District.

40. In the Tonk District, excepting on land in the immediate vicinity of the capital and on land bearing crops of opium, sugarcane, cotton, and oil plants, which are assessed in money, the revenue is exacted in kind, the gross out-turn of each harvest being thus divided:—

Government	46½	per cent.
Cultivator	46½	„
Dues of Patels, Putwarees, and others ...	7	„

The cultivator has further to pay a cess of 2 to 4 annas on every maund of his share of the produce under the heads of "Mulba" and "Napa."

Immediately around the capital the land is thus assessed:—

Irrigated Land.

On crops of opium ...	about Rupees 15 per acre.
„ sugarcane ...	
„ tobacco ...	
On other crops	Rupees 7½ per acre.

Unirrigated Land.

On crops of cotton ...	Rupees 3 per acre.
„ indigo ...	
„ Indian corn ...	
Jowar...	Rupees 1-8 per acre.

In addition, the cultivator pays about 9 annas per acre for "village expenses." This item includes all contingent charges, such as nuzzerana, fines, dustucks, &c., which are defrayed by heads of villages. An account is kept by the Putwaree of these disbursements, and at the end of each year the amount is rated on every acre under cultivation, and usually averages the sum above mentioned.

Traditional rates of assessment in the Rampoora District.

41. In the Rampoora District the system of realizing the revenue in kind is only followed out on unirrigated land.

Irrigated land is thus assessed:—

Sugarcane crops	Rupees	15 per acre.
Opium...	„	13 „
Wheat and barley	„	8 „
Other produce	„	6 „

The cultivators also pay 6 annas per acre as village expenses.

In villages near jungle where a loss is entailed by ravages of pig and deer, the rates of assessment are considerably lower.

On unirrigated land the gross out-turn is thus divided:—

Government	... 53½ per cent.
Cultivator	... 41½ „
Patel, Putwaree, and Canoongoe, &c.	... 5 „

"Mulba" and "Napa" are also levied, reducing the cultivator's share still further.

Traditional rates of assessment in Chuppra District.

42. In the Chuppra District the principle of division of crops is unknown. The rates of assessment are as follows:—

Irrigated Land.

From Rupees 7 to Rupees 9 per acre in accordance with the quality of the soil. Four annas per acre is also levied under the head of expenses and credited to Government, and further, one anna in every Rupee of revenue is taken from the cultivator for "village expenses."

The assessment remains invariable, whatever the crops; but when sugarcane is grown, the State claims as its property the refuse of the sugarcane after passing through the mills; the refuse is generally farmed out to the owner of the land at Rupees 2 per beegah.

Unirrigated Land.

Soil of 1st quality from Rs. 1-14 to Rs. 2 to 6 per acre.
Do. 2nd do. from „ 1-5 to „ 1-10 „
Do. 3rd do. about Rupee 1 per acre.
Do. 4th do. from 8 to 12 annas per acre.

The cess for expenses is also levied as on irrigated land.

Traditional rates of assessment in the Seronge District.

43. In the Seronge District a money assessment also prevails.

Irrigated Land.

From Rupees 6-8 to Rupees 12 per acre on opium crops in accordance with the quality of the soil.
From Rupees 5 to Rs. 8 per acre on sugarcane crops.
„ „ 80 to „ 120 per acre on pan gardens.

Unirrigated Land.

Black cotton soil	Rs. 2-7 to Rs. 3-4 per acre.
Brown soil	„ 1-10 to „ 2-7 „
Rocky soil	„ 0-13 to „ 1-0 „

The rates of assessment on unirrigated lands do not vary with the crops. Further, one-third of the soil under cultivation is admitted rent-free under the term "choot."

On both irrigated and unirrigated land a cess of about 3¼ annas per acre is levied from cultivators to defray "village expenses."

Traditional.

44. In the Perawa District the theoretical rates of assessment are as follows:—

Irrigated Land.

On sugarcane crops	...	...	Rs.	14 per acre.
On opium crops...	...	...	„	12 „
Wheat crops ...	...	...	„	8 „
Barley and rice ...	...	...	„	7 „

Unirrigated Land.

About Rs. 1-12 per acre.

A cess of about 1½ annas in every Rupee of revenue is also exacted for "village expenses."

The Zemindars, however, state that the land has not been measured for about 40 years, and they complain that, under the present settlement, the incidence of the jumma is far in excess of the rates above detailed.

Assessment in the Neembhera District.

45. I have been unable as yet to visit Neembhera, and I am not in a position, therefore, to say much regarding this district, beyond that in it the Government revenue is realized partly in money and partly in kind.

Such, then, are the traditional and theoretical rates of assessment.

Proprietors of the soil.

46. In this territory, as well as throughout Rajpootana generally, owing to the quantity of land available and the paucity of cultivators, the tiller of the soil is held to be the proprietor, and pays rent direct to the Government. But the collection of revenue from individual cultivators, especially under an excessive assessment, must necessarily be a troublesome matter and open to great peculation. Hence the system of farming out villages, or batches of villages, finds great favour in Native Principalities. Tonk has been no exception to the rule.

47. The farmers of the State may be divided into three classes:

1*st.*—Members of the Tonk family, or officials, who have been granted villages on farm in lieu of monthly allowances or pay.

2*nd.*—Speculators of substance, some being Mahomedans, others Soucars.

3*rd.*—Heads of villages.

In the Tonk and Rampoora Districts, the farmers are principally of the first two classes; in others Patels for the most part hold leases for their respective villages.

If farmers are treated with liberality by the State, moderation may be expected on their part in their dealings with the cultivators; but if pressed, they assuredly seek to reimburse themselves at the ryot's expense; and such, I am sorry to say, appears to have been the case in many pergunnahs of this Chiefship. Tonk and Rampoora have fared much better than the outlying districts. The value set upon leases may be gauged by the fact that it has been deemed necessary to take security from the farmers at the commencement of each year for the season's rent.

48. I would now proceed to touch on the settlements actually existing in the various districts of this State, commencing with Seronge not only as being the largest in area, and naturally the most favoured, but because it has been the most neglected, and requires in consequence primary attention.

Existing settlements.

49. To ascertain what the revenue amounted to in former times, popular report setting it down at three lakhs, I caused search to be made amongst the records of the Canoongoe's Office, and documents so far back as 1683 A. D. were found. It appears in that year* the revenue of Seronge, which was then an imperial appanage, amounted to Rupees 3,12,137.

Land revenue of Seronge from 1683 A. D. to 1810 A. D.

In 1696 A. D., the district fell under the sway of the Peshwa, who obtained from it an income of Rupees 3,96,908. This must have been an over-assessment, for the following year only Rupees 1,82,880 were realized, but in 1698 A. D., the revenue again rose to Rupees 2,76,432.

Holkar obtained possession in 1709 A. D., and drew from the pergunnah until 1785 A. D. a revenue which, although subject to considerable fluctuations, averaged upwards of 2¼ lakhs per annum.

No papers could be found for the years between 1785 A. D. and 1810 A. D., but the district must have suffered severely from war and the general disturbed state of Central India towards the close of the last and the commencement of the present century, for in the last named year, after Holkar had made over Seronge to Ameer Khan, the revenue had sunk to Rupees 1,07,179.

50. Papers are also unfortunately missing from 1810 A. D. to 1848 A. D., but it is generally stated that, for some years at least, an income ranging about two lakhs was realized. In 1848 A. D., however, the district only yielded Rupees 1,36,533. For the eight succeeding years the revenue slightly advanced, but four years of depression followed, reducing the revenue in 1859 A. D. to Rupees 1,08,494.

Land revenue of Seronge from 1810 A. D. to 1859 A. D.

51. In 1860 A. D., the late Nawab Wuzzeer-ood-dowla deputed Dewan Shumsh-ood-deen to Seronge, and this officer effected a twelve years' progressive settlement, commencing at Rupees 1,17,272 and closing with Rupees 1,71,041, of which four years have yet to run. According to this settlement the demand for the current Fuslee year, which ends next month, stands at Rupees 1,50,155.

Settlement of 1859.

52. The settlement was made in the Seronge Rupee, which is equivalent to about 13 annas of the imperial Rupee. But in 1862 A. D., the heads of villages were induced to agree to the introduction of a currency

Change of currency.

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* *N. B.*—The present area of the district is said to be the same as in days of the Emperors, but I think its limits must have been curtailed. The extent of jageer holding was probably greater then than now. The amounts of income here quoted include the revenue derived from land and all other sources. These latter now yield about Rupees 30,000 per annum, and when Seronge was a flourishing town, a much larger sum must have been realized.

termed the Mahomed Khanee Rupee, the market value of which ranges about four per cent. above the imperial Rupee, on the condition that all outstanding balances, then amounting to upwards of three lakhs of rupees, were remitted. This arrangement virtually increased the assessment by about 22 per cent.

Decline in the value of money.

53. The figures above quoted do not by any means fully represent the gradual decline of the district during the two past centuries.

The value of money in relation to agricultural produce must also be taken into account. I think I am within the mark in estimating the purchasing power of money as having fallen 50 per cent., or that the value of agricultural produce has risen 100 per cent. In other words, one rupee of revenue then represented a state of agricultural prosperity which two rupees of revenue does not more than represent now.

Effect of the rise of prices.

54. The same cause must be borne in mind in drawing deductions from the comparative amounts of revenue realized during the past seven years of the present settlement. The revenue has certainly yearly increased; yet as surely do we know that the population and area of land under cultivation have decreased. The great rise in prices, which set in over all India after the mutinies of 1857-58, has alone enabled the district to bear up against the annually progressive settlement: the outstanding balance sheet, too, shows Rupees 20,000 as the amount of revenue in arrears since 1862.

Pressure of the present settlement.

55. Nevertheless, the settlement would have been borne with equanimity had further taxation been refrained from.

But since 1865 not a season passed without a new cess having been levied on some pretext. At one time it was nuzzerana at 8 per cent. on the revenue on account of Mahomed Ali Khan's accession; at another, nuzzerana on account of his son's marriage; at another, nuzzerana on account of his expenses to the Agra Durbar; and so on. The amount imposed by these various cesses was not, it is true, very large, and the sum realized has fallen far short of the demand; yet it disheartened the people, and, moreover, exceeded the capability of a district notoriously poverty-stricken.

Poverty of the people.

56. So destitute are the cultivators of capital and means, that certainly three-fourths of the seed annually required is advanced by the Government or by Soucars; and it is actually necessary to appoint men to see that the grain advanced is sown, for otherwise a great portion would, it is said, be consumed by the husbandmen, the pressure of whose immediate wants renders them regardless of the future.

25,000 maunds of seed were advanced last October by the Government. Formerly seed thus advanced was repaid in kind at the harvest, with 25 per cent. added as the Government profit; but two years ago the Ex-Nawab very liberally, and, I may add, very wisely, remitted this, substituting in its place a small due of four annas per maund, which amply suffices to cover all expenses.

57. Perhaps, the weakest point of the existing settlement has been its inequalities. Whilst some villages have flourished under its operation, others present a lamentable history of decline. To enter into special cases would, however, swell this Report unnecessarily.

Inequalities of the settlement.

58. If the measurements of the area of land under cultivation recorded in the Canoongoe's Office were reliable, a ready conclusion might be arrived at as to the rigour of the present settlement by striking the average incidence of the jumma per acre and comparing it with the average rate of assessment in British districts of similar capacity and advantages.

Mode of ascertaining rigour of the settlement.

59. Nursingpore, in the Central Provinces, closely resembles Seronge in its soil and producing capability. The average return of wheat in the former has been calculated to be fourfold, or six maunds to the acre, and in Seronge this is usually estimated as being a good average return for wheat crops on black soil.

Nursingpore District compared with Seronge.

In an elaborate and able Report on the settlement of the Nursingpore District, Mr. Grant thus writes on the subject of the rate of assessment:—

"First, I found that the few villages which had regularly broken down under Captain Ouseley's settlement had been assessed at rates exceeding one rupee per cultivated acre. By further enquiry it seemed to be established that no ordinary village had passed unscathed through an assessment of Rupees 1-4 per cultivated acre. The conclusion was, that between the rates of one rupee and one rupee four annas per acre was debatable ground, but every step beyond the limit of Rupees 1-4 needed the most exceptional caution, and when experience showed the maximum rate of assessment in the best villages to be between one rupee and one rupee four annas, there was obviously no further room for discussing the question why the whole district could not be assessed at Rupees 2 or more." On these as well as on other grounds arrived at by other processes of reasoning, the rate of assessment in the whole district was fixed at a trifle over 11½ annas to the cultivated acre, and I look upon it that, were Seronge British territory, the assessment would be fixed at about this rate.

60. A perusal of the rates set forth in paragraph 43 certainly leads to the inference that in the Seronge District the incidence of the settlement is considerably above 11½ annas to the cultivated acre; and a comparison of the revenue with the supposed area under cultivation points to a like conclusion. According to the local records, about 18 per cent. of the total area is alienated in jageers, 30 per cent. unculturable, 23 per cent. culturable waste, and 29 per cent., or 152,000 acres, under cultivation, which gives an average incidence of something less than one rupee to the cultivated acre according to the present year's assessment.

Average rate of assessment.

61. Under all circumstances, there appeared good cause to question the expediency, or even the practicability, of maintaining the settlement in its integrity. The condition of the people and of the district do not warrant the hope that they would be able to bear an

Undesirability to maintain the settlement in its integrity.

increase of Rupees 20,000 within the next four years, as provided for in the settlement. It has been therefore proposed to the Regency Council to permit the settlement for the period which it has yet to run to stand at its present figure, and also to make further remissions in favour of such villages as shall be proved after full enquiry to be undoubtedly over-assessed. This measure of relief will, I conceive, be sufficient, though certainly not more than is necessary. When in Seronge, I was waited upon by the heads of all villages in the district: the burden of their cry was the weight of the progressive settlement and the new cesses imposed upon them; and they stated that, were the latter no longer levied, and the yearly increase on the assessment remitted in the future, they would be fully satisfied.

Comparison between the Seronge District and Tonk District.

62. Before passing from the subject of the revenue settlement of Seronge, a question of importance presents itself deserving attention.

In the Tonk District the soil is incomparably inferior to that of Seronge, and at the same time the assessment is undoubtedly much heavier. Yet Tonk has flourished whilst Seronge has been impoverished. To what cause is this to be attributed?

I observe that Mr. Grant, in his Report above quoted, discusses this same subject in its relation between the North-Western Provinces and Nursingpore. He shows that 18 maunds of wheat to the acre are harvested in the North-Western Provinces against 6 maunds in Nursingpore, the cause being, he argues, the comparative paucity of the population in the latter.

To use his own words: "The light soil of Upper India is worked up to its present state of excellence by one of the most numerous agricultural populations in the world, and it would be over-sanguine to expect even equal results from the application of a force not exceeding 160* persons to the square mile to the far more exacting black soil."

* *N. B.*—Average density of population in Nursingpore District.

The potency of irrigation.

63. The cogency of this argument may be admitted, but it appears to me that the more potent cause, *viz.*, the efficacy of irrigation, has not been noticed. To my knowledge no unirrigated land in the North-Western Provinces does yield 18 maunds of wheat to the acre; this rate of production is confined to irrigated land, and is equalled in the Tonk District. On the other hand, 6 maunds of wheat to the acre is the yield in Nursingpore, and also in Seronge on unirrigated land. Hence a comparison has been made between irrigated light soil and unirrigated black soil, the result of which is entirely in favour of the former. We are then tempted to enquire what has predisposed the cultivators of light soils to have recourse to irrigation, when the husbandmen of the richer black soil have paid so little attention to it? The reason, I think, is this. In the North-Western Provinces, in Tonk, and elsewhere, where sandy soil prevails, the out-turn of wheat on unirrigated land is miserably small, so small, indeed, that very little wheat is grown, except there are some means of irrigation.

But in Nursingpore, Seronge, and other black soils, the crop of wheat on unirrigated land is sufficiently heavy to afford ample profit to

the cultivator, and hence the necessity of employing capital and labour on irrigational works, such as wells, tanks, and canals, has never been forced on the minds of the population.

Indolence of population of Seronge.

64. Natives attribute, and not without reason, the poverty of Seronge to the indolence of the population. From whatever cause it may have arisen, the agricultural classes of Seronge are, by their own admission, less laborious and diligent than their brethren in less favoured districts.

Tonk District. Area under cultivation.

65. The area of the Tonk Pergunnah according to the Government map may be calculated at 440 square miles, or 281,600 acres, but by local records it is as much as 330,795 acres. I think, however, this must be an over-estimate; jageers occupy about 61 per cent. of the whole surface, and khalsa land under cultivation about 33 per cent., or 92,928 acres.

Settlement and incidence of the assessment.

66. The great bulk of the district is held on 20 years' lease, of which three have expired, either by members of the Tonk Family in lieu of monthly cash allowances, or ordinary speculators. The Government demand for 1866-67 amounted to Rupees 2,49,090, of which Rupees 2,40,072 were realized. Accepting the estimated area of khalsa land under cultivation to be correct, the average rate of assessment for cultivated acre is Rupees 2-9. The market value of the local currency is, however, some five per cent. less than the Imperial rupee.

System of payment in kind favourably regarded.

67. The system of the cultivators paying their rents in kind is said to be very popular, and besides its chief merit, that the demand varies with the nature of the season, there is certainly this in its favour, that the injustice and impossibility of taking more than a certain proportion of the harvest without actually starving the people must come home to the mind of the most avaricious or self-blind Chief, —facts which would not be so readily apprehended if money were the medium of payment. On the whole, the cultivators of this district are better off than those of any other, and they are in consequence contented. The new cesses were of course a subject of grievance, but these have been remitted.

Rampoora District. The settlement and revenues since 1818-19 A. D.

68. The Rampoora District was farmed out in 1864 on leases for 20 years. The farmers are mostly speculators who reside in Tonk.

The Government demand in 1866-67 amounted to Rupees 78,757, of which Rupees 78,694 were realized. In the year 1818-19 A. D. this district was under British rule, and the revenue raised amounted, according to the Canoongoe's records, to Rupees 53,191.

Rampoora was given to Nawab Ameer Khan in 1819, and during the four subsequent years the revenue averaged Rupees 69,083. During the sixteen succeeding years the average fell to Rupees 46,919. In 1838-39 the income rose to Rupees 73,566, and in the following year to the unprecedented sum of Rupees 88,277. A depression followed, but the average revenue between 1838-39 and 1862-63 stood at Rupees 71,119.

From that year to 1866-67 the average has been Rupees 82,653. These figures include the income from "Sewae," which, however, may be put down at an average of Rupees 6,500 per annum.

If we bear in mind that a rise in prices directly affects the revenue, a great portion of the rents being paid in kind, the income of the district has not increased since 1818-19 as much as might have been expected.

Divisions of crops on unirrigated land in 1866-67.

69. The out-turn of the crops on unirrigated land in 1866-67 was thus divided:—

Amount of gross produce in maunds.

	Maunds.
Government	46,399
Cultivators	42,986
Government and village officers	6,703
Total ...	95,088

The cultivators prefer the system of paying their rents in kind to a money assessment, but they complain that their share of the produce is unfairly small. The figures above given do not accurately illustrate the proportion assigned to ordinary cultivators. As stated in paragraph 41, they obtain only 41½ per cent. of the gross out-turn, from which, too, they have to pay some cesses, reducing the percentage to about 39 per cent. Favoured individuals, however, such as patels, village officers, ex-soldiers, and others, are allowed a considerably larger share, and thus the average of the whole district is raised. The height of the cultivators' aspirations is to be allowed one-half of the gross produce as their share; and it will be admitted that their wishes are not extravagant. It may be doubted whether, in British territory, the Government demand anywhere exceeds one-third of the gross out-turn, and on an average it may be estimated at about one-seventh only.

Area of Chuppra land under cultivation and revenue.

70. The area of Chuppra is about 218,200 acres, jageer lands occupying, say, 20 per cent. Of the khalsa land 41,300 acres are under cultivation according to the local measurements, which in 1866-67 raised the following crops:—

Opium	3,231 acres.	Irrigated.
Sugarcane	37 „	
Barley	47 „	
Wheat	16,014 „	Unirrigated.
Jowar (millet)	17,085 „	
Gram	4,042 „	
Rice	67 „	
Cotton	177 „	
Miscellaneous	600 „	

The revenue for 1866-67 amounted to Rupees 1,03,840, or Rupees 2-8 to the cultivated acre. I believe, however, that the incidence of the assessment is not as high as this. The cultivated area must, therefore, have been considerably under-estimated.

Present settlement of the district.

71. The present settlement, which terminates in June 1869, was effected with heads of villages four years ago; the assessment is as high as the district can bear. Great discontent prevailed consequent on the cesses recently imposed by the Ex-Nawab, which increased the demand by about 15 per cent. These have been remitted, and nothing further is now necessary. A new settlement will be required next year.

Area of the Perawa District.

72. If calculated from the Government map, the area of Perawa is 159,000 acres, but by the Canoongoe's records, it is only 93,900.

The whole of the khalsa culturable land, amounting to about 58 per cent. of the area, is said to be under cultivation; 22 per cent. of the surface is set down as unculturable, and the remaining 20 per cent. as jageer.

Present settlement of the district.

73. In 1861, an eight years' settlement was effected by Dewan Shumsh-ood-deen with the heads of villages, commencing at Rupees 1,64,536, and terminating with Rupees 1,65,236, an increase of Rupees 20,000 over the previous assessment. Last June, however, although two years of the leases were unexpired, the Amil of the district made a new settlement for a term of seven years, by which the jumma was raised to Rupees 1,81,821, or a rise of 10 per cent. The farmers have strongly appealed against this; they state that they were punished and confined until a consent was wrung from them, and there are grounds to believe that this was the case. The Amil has been removed, and his successor is now enquiring into the matter. So soon as this Officer's Report is received, the question will be dealt with by the Council. However, I may here say that there seems little doubt but that the assessment, as fixed by the settlement of 1861 A. D., must be restored and the act of the Ex-Amil cancelled, in which event a fresh settlement will have to be effected from June 1869.

Neembhera area and settlement.

74. The area of Neembhera may be roughly estimated at 206,000 acres, of which 85,600 are cultivated; 35,000 culturable waste; 65,900 unculturable; and 16,500 jageer lands. The land revenue for 1866-67 amounted to Rupees 1,83,841, or Rupees 2-2 per cultivated acre. A seven years' settlement was effected with village communities at the commencement of the current year.

I am not yet in a position to report on the merits of this settlement.

Uncollected balances of land revenue.

75. The outstanding balances of land revenue in the whole State at the close of the last Fuslee year, corresponding with 1866-67, amounted to Rupees 1,74,674.

Including previous balances. The balances stood as follows:—

For 1863-64	...	...	...	Rs.	1,07,969
„ 1864-65	...	...	...	„	12,769
„ 1865-66	...	...	...	„	18,792
„ 1866-67	...	...	...	„	35,144

The greater portion of these sums are irrecoverable; perhaps Rupees 40,000 may be realized, but certainly not more. The desirability of striking from the accounts by a formal remission all irrecoverable balances needs no comment; and the subject will receive due attention so soon as other more pressing matters are disposed of.

Sources of revenue.

76. The most important sources of revenue, besides land, have been customs, nuzzerana, fines, lapses and confiscations, dispensary and school cess, and stamps.

Customs.

77. Customs yield ordinarily about Rupees 65,000, of which Rupees 25,000 are collected at Tonk, and Rupees 20,000 at Neembhera. In 1866, the customs duties in Tonk were nearly doubled, but the revenue only increased 30 per cent., showing, therefore, that trade had proportionately declined.

Nuzzerana and fines.

78. Nuzzerana, fines, and lapses and confiscations are sources of income dependent in a great measure on the will of the Ruler. Their elasticity was fully tried in 1866-67, when Rupees 1,23,575 were realized on these heads. About one-fourth of this amount may be estimated as their legitimate income.

Stamp duties.

79. The dispensary and school cess and stamp duties were new modes of taxation. The latter was levied most arbitrarily. All official transactions of a personal nature, and many of trade and of private life, were embraced within its provisions. Jageerdars were compelled to take out new Sununds for their estates on heavily stamped paper; and all farmers of revenue were required to have fresh leases drawn out in like manner.

School and dispensary cess.

80. The cess for schools and dispensaries was fixed at 2 per cent. on the land revenue, the expenditure on these institutions being less than one-seventh of that amount.

In fact, the name was put forward as a mere catch to induce the people to accept the assessment under the belief that the British Government had moved it.

Cess for change of currency.

81. In some districts a further tax of 2 per cent. on the land revenue was lumped with this cess, and called "Discount of the local Rupee," this being the usual rate of discount between the imperial and the Madhopoori rupee, the old currency of this State. The adoption of a currency equal in value to the British Rupee was announced with considerable ostentation to the Governor General's Agent, but it meant nothing more than that in districts where the currency is of less value than the Imperial Rupee, the cultivators should pay the difference. Where the local currency is higher than the Imperial Rupee, Seronge for example, no change was made; and troops and establishments were still paid in the old coinage.

82. There are many other dues, some of a petty character, which, in the aggregate, formed a large item in the revenue. The most considerable was a cess of $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas in the rupee recently levied on jageerdars, under the head of "Protection to the Government Mails."

Financial.

83. The finances of the principality are considerably involved, and require care and attention to place them on a sound and satisfactory footing. The mode of keeping the accounts is confusing and intricate according to our ideas, rendering it difficult to ascertain the actual income and expenditure of any given period. Accounts are kept by the Mahomedan year; receipts follow the Fuslee year, and salaries are payable by our months.

84. The receipts and disbursements for the Fuslee year 1274, which terminated last June, are shown in the following Table:—

No.	Receipts.	Amount.	No.	Disbursements.	Amount.
		Rs.			*Rs.*
1	Land Revenue, including Dispensary cess ...	9,47,492	1	Army and Police ...	3,49,661
2	Customs	71,742	2	Civil Establishments, including miscellaneous ...	1,46,712
3	Nuzzerana	76,286	3	Public Works	23,037
4	Fines	25,442	4	Stables and kitchen ...	57,958
5	Lapses and confiscations.	24,848	5	Purchase of elephants, horses, &c.	65,083
6	Stamps	10,919	6	Gifts and grants ...	69,690
7	Miscellaneous ...	94,085	7	Allowances to members of family	2,16,000
			8	Tuccavee advances ...	7,189
				Total ...	9,35,330
			9	In liquidation of debt, including interest ...	3,16,571
	Total ...	12,50,814		Total ...	12,51,901

The cash balance in the Treasury at the close of the year stood at Rupees 1,77,535. The income during 1274 Fuslee was forced up to its maximum limit. The arbitrary manner in which the revenue was increased has already been touched on in other parts of this Report. It has been the custom in this State to lump the interest of debt with the principal, closing and making up the accounts yearly; hence it is not very easy to determine accurately the actual amount of debt paid off.

85. The following Statement represents the Regular Budget Estimate of income and expenditure during the current Fuslee year,

which terminates on the 5th June. It is based on ten months' actual receipts and disbursements with an estimate for the remaining two:—

No.	Receipts.	Amount.	No.	Disbursements.	Amount.
		Rs.			*Rs.*
1	Land Revenue, including Dispensary cess	8,67,053	1	Army and Police	3,31,257
2	Customs	61,363	2	Civil Establishments ...	1,66,086
3	Nuzzerana	11,143	3	Public Works	37,191
4	Fines	32,173	4	State Establishments, such as stables, kitchens ...	90,565
5	Stamps	50,112	5	Allowances to members of family	2,16,332
6	Lapses and confiscations ...	4,252	6	Purchases made by Ex-Nawab	48,111
7	Miscellaneous	63,529	7	Gifts and grants by ditto	33,700
		10,89,625	8	Privy expenditure of ditto	1,04,092
8	Debts contracted by Ex-Nawab prior to his deposition ...	1,50,508	9	Miscellaneous	18,489
9	Borrowed under Agent, Governor General's sanction ...	1,00,000	10	Allowances to Ex-Nawab, January to May	25,000
10	Cash balance in hand at commencement of year ...	1,77,535	11	Allowances to Nawab, January to May...	5,000
			12	Regency Council	7,247
			13	Assistant Agent, Governor General, and Establishment	4,102
				Total ...	10,87,152
			14	Amount given to Ex-Nawab on his departure	1,26,249
			15	Amount of debt paid off, including interest	2,28,807
				Total ...	14,42,208
				Estimated balance at close of year	75,460
	Total ...	15,17,668		Total ...	15,17,668

Land Revenue in 1867-68.

86. The land revenue shows a falling off of Rupees 80,000, but it must be borne in mind that the Ex-Nawab, prior to his departure from Tonk, conferred jageers valued at upwards of Rupees 90,000 per annum on certain of his relations and friends. A portion of these grants were, however, given in lieu of monthly cash allowances. The question as to whether these grants are to be respected is now the subject of enquiry.

Customs in 1867-68.

87. Customs have also declined, but a considerable part is merely nominal, arising from the change of currency in the Neembhera District from the Shahlum Shai Rupee, which is worth 13 annas, to the Imperial Rupee. In the Financial Statement for 1274 Fuslee the receipts of the Neembhera District were recorded in the Shalum Shai Rupee, the discount being debited under another head.

Miscellaneous items of revenue.

88. Excepting stamps and fines, the remaining items of revenue exhibit a decrease. This was inevitable. Many new exactions have of necessity

been remitted; indeed, the Ex-Nawab himself, on hearing rumours last year that his deposition was determined on, took prior action in this matter to remove popular discontent.

Stamps.

89. As stated in paragraph 79, jageerdars were required to take out new Sunnuds for their estates on which a stamp duty of 12½ per cent. on a year's income was imposed. This causes the great increase under the head of stamps.

Expenditure in 1867-68.

90. The expenditure has been unavoidably large; the pay of all establishments, civil and military, was two months in arrears at the commencement of the year; and, therefore, the disbursements under these heads represent an expenditure for 14 months, which more than swallows up the savings caused by the reductions and retrenchments effected since January last.

As cash allowances amounting to Rupees 36,936 per annum had been commuted by assignments of jageer land, item No. 5 of expenditure should show a corresponding decrease; but during the year the Ex-Nawab gave extra allowances, or more properly grants of money, to his mother and other relatives, which more than balanced the sum above mentioned. Since the administration of the State by the Regency Council, allowances have been restricted to the customary and established amounts.

Items Nos. 6, 7, and 8, were sums expended by the Ex-Nawab prior to his deposition, and therefore beyond control.

Three lakhs of rupees in cash or property were allowed to Mahomed Ali Khan on his removal from power. He took Rupees 33,751 in property and all the cash then in the Treasury, *viz.*, Rupees 1,26,249 (item No. 14). There remains Rupees 1,40,000 still due to him, which is to be remitted by monthly instalments of Rupees 3,000.

91. I now proceed to the financial prospects of 1868-69.

The following Statement exhibits the estimated receipts and disbursements:—

No.	Receipts.	Amount.	No.	Expenditure.	Amount.
		Rupees.			*Rupees.*
1	Land Revenue	8,41,763	1	Army and Police	2,51,000
2	Customs	65,282	2	Civil Establishments	1,11,900
3	Stamps	3,000	3	Pensions	2,000
4	Nuzzerana	9,499	4	Public Works	30,000
5	Miscellaneous, including lapses, fines, and minor cesses ...	57,967	5	Expenditure on State establishment, such as stables, &c. ...	36,000
6	Abkaree	40,000	6	Miscellaneous	26,000
			7	Allowances to members of family...	1,80,000
			8	Personal allowance to Nawab ...	12,000
			9	Regency Council	18,000
			10	Assistant Agent, Governor General, and establishment	12,000
			11	Allowance to Ex-Nawab ...	60,000
			12	Instalment in part of 1,40,000 due to Ex-Nawab	36,000
			13	Interest on debt	40,000
			14	Contingencies	18,000
				Total ...	8,32,900
	Total ...	10,17,511		Balance	1,84,611
				Total ...	10,17,511

92. The only item of receipts that calls for special remark is that of Abkaree, which found no place in the financial statements of 1866-67 and 1867-68. This source of revenue was abolished many years ago on religious grounds, wine and strong drink having been prohibited by the Mahomedan Prophet and Lawgiver. No distilleries have been allowed, and the sale of liquor has been straitly interdicted; heavy fines have been levied from persons transgressing these rules. Yet it is on all sides acknowledged that the prohibition has proved utterly ineffectual in checking the private consumption of liquor, which is smuggled across the frontier from the neighbouring States; and it is also admitted, though not publicly, that very few of those who profess abstinence really abstain. At the instance of the Agent, Governor General, the desirability of having recourse to this source of revenue in the present financial embarrassment, which cripples the administration, has been submitted for the consideration of the Regency Council, and it will be introduced, I believe, under certain restrictions, such, for example, as the interdiction to the sale of liquor to any Mahomedan.

Abkaree.

93. Amongst the items of estimated expenditure, the reduction in the cost of Army and Police is most noteworthy. The numerical strength remains amply sufficient for all requirements.

Estimated expenditure in 1868-69.

In other departments economy has been duly regarded; but as the Ex-Nawab had during his rule reduced all superfluous expenditure, and cut down all establishments to the lowest footing, little or nothing was left to be done.

The maintenance allowed to the members of the Tonk Family forms a heavy item of expenditure; and if to this be added the value of the jageers they enjoy, we find that the aggregate of their emoluments does not fall far short of two-thirds of the revenue left to the State.

94. The balance of income over expenditure has been estimated at Rupees 1,84,611; of this, some Rupees 44,000 must be retained to increase the cash balances, which are now at so low a figure as will make it a matter of extreme inconvenience to carry on the administration until the next revenue instalments are received; and there then remains a surplus balance of Rupees 1,40,000 for the liquidation of the State liabilities.

Balance of income available for debt.

95. The debt, as it will stand at the close of the current year, may be divided into the following heads:—

State debts.

		Rupees.
A.	Debts due to bankers which either do, or will, bear interest	5,55,729
B.	Debts in course of liquidation by fixed annual instalments of Rupees 2,917, bearing no interest	56,248
C.	Miscellaneous debts to bankers, tradesmen, and others, bearing no interest, about	3,01,236
D.	Arrears of pay due to discharged servants of the State, Military and Civil	2,25,000
E.	Promissory Notes granted by Nawab Wuzeer-ood-dowlah and Nawab Mahomed Ali as "Inams" or rewards for services, nominal or real	2,97,792
	Total ...	14,36,005

Debts bearing interest.

96. The head A. includes the sum of one lakh of rupees borrowed last January under the Agent, Governor General's sanction. The creditors for the balance, *viz.*, Rupees 4,55,729, hold promissory notes for Rupees 1,77,272 on this year's revenue, and for Rupees 2,78,457 on the income of 1868-69. It is manifestly utterly impossible to meet these calls as they fall due, and fresh arrangements must be made with the bondholders. As the bonds on the next year's income are without interest until matured, Rupees 40,000 has been estimated as the total amount of interest that has to be defrayed in 1868-69. In 1869-70 it will rise to Rupees 62,000, unless a portion of the principal is liquidated.

Debts in course of liquidation.

97. The debt under the head B. is being paid off by annual instalments of Rupees 2,917, which were fixed some years ago on terms very favourable to the State. It would be financially impolitic to disturb these arrangements.

Miscellaneous debts not bearing interest.

98. The liabilities under the heads C. and D. carry no interest to the creditors, and appear to demand primary attention. The former consists of bills due for articles purchased, and sums of money borrowed from the servants of the State or members of the family. Tradesmen, who doubtless charged very high for their goods, would, I feel sure, accept 13 annas in the rupee if offered, and with regard to the other claims, an arrangement might be readily effected similar to that alluded to under the head B. Rupees 50,000 in cash now, with annual instalments of Rupees 25,000 for ten years, would be sufficient, I think, to adjust the whole of the debt under the head C., and such a measure would certainly be the best in the interest of the State.

Arrears of pay due to discharged servants.

99. The exact amount due under the head D. has not yet been determined. According to the accounts, some three lakhs of rupees are due as arrears of pay to Military and Civil Servants of the State, who have been discharged. Many of these claims are of years' standing, and the would-be recipients are dead. A commission of enquiry is now sitting for the investigation of these claims, each of which, when substantiated, will be duly registered, so that hereafter they may be discharged without any difficulty when the Treasury is in a position to meet the call. It is estimated that Rupees 2,25,000, or less, will cover all liabilities under this head.

It may not be deemed superfluous to state that the justice of these claims has never been questioned, and ordinarily some few have been annually discharged.

Military.

Strength of the force during 1867.

100. During the past year the Military Force and Armed Police maintained by the State stood as follows :—

Ordnance.		Artillery.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Garrison Troops.	Armed Police.	Total.	Remarks.
Heavy Guns.	Field Guns.							
22	28	366	568	1,941	496	823	4,194	Including non-combatants.

the whole costing about Rupees 3,49,000 per annum. Excepting the Garrison Troops and Armed Police the remainder of the force was divided into seven corps, two being composed of the three arms of the service and three of infantry and artillery.

101. The rates of pay were low. Troops received from Rupees 12 to 18 per mensem; artillerymen Rupees 6; sepoys Rupees 4 to 5; and garrison troops Rupees 3 to 4 per month; the pay of commissioned and non-commissioned officers being in proportion.

Rates of pay.

102. The first steps taken after the departure of the Ex-Nawab by the Regency Council were to reduce and reorganize the Military Forces.

Reorganization and reduction of the force.

	Combatants.	Non-combatants.	Total.	Amount of yearly pay.
				Rs.
1st Regiment of Infantry	686	14	700	47,472
2nd ditto of ditto	685	14	699	46,992
Artillery	103	63	166	13,404
Cavalry	479	10	489	98,580
Garrison Troops ...	481	27	508	22,926
Total ...	2,434	128	2,562	2,29,374
Police	563	...	563	25,185
Grand Total ...	2,997	128	3,125	2,54,559

The infantry were amalgamated and divided into two regiments; the cavalry into five troops; and the artillery into one company, the whole amounting to 2,434 combatants, costing Rupees 2,29,374 per annum, as per detailed Statement noted on the margin, to which, however, must be added the Armed Police, numbering 563 men, costing Rupees 25,185 per annum. Of the Police, 177 men are maintained simply for the escort of Government mails.

103. Altogether about 1,014 men have been discharged and 55 pensioned. Of the former, the great bulk were Velaitees, to be rid of whom was highly desirable. The reduction was effected with due consideration to individual claims, and caused little or no dissatisfaction.

Number of men discharged and pensioned.

104. Rupees 15 per mensem for troops and Rupees 5 for sepoys has been settled as the standard rates of pay for the cavalry and infantry.

Rates of pay.

One troop of cavalry, which is termed the Body Guard, are granted Rupees 18 per mensem.

Armament of cavalry and infantry.

105. The cavalry are very indifferently mounted.

The infantry are armed with old flint muskets, so old, indeed, as to be almost unserviceable. The Garrison Companies are divided into men who serve the guns and matchlockmen.

Ordnance.

106. The ordnance at Tonk itself consists of 17 heavy guns and mortars and 20 field pieces, all of which, excepting a battery of four 4-pounders, are mounted on the ramparts of the fort. The heavy guns are mostly 18-pounder, and are of considerable age, having been taken by Nawab Ameer Khan in his numerous actions early in this century; nevertheless they are serviceable, and, with their carriages, kept in fair order.

Stone shot and shell have been in a large measure substituted for iron as being more economical. Some difficulty is, moreover, experienced in casting iron shells.

The battery of 4-pounder above alluded to, though miserably horsed, manœuvres with the other arms.

Brigade movements and drill.

107. The infantry and cavalry are drilled and brigaded, and affect a precision of movement. On a field day it is not unusual to see one regiment firing merrily into their comrades whilst in the act, perhaps, of taking up a new position. The cavalry charge with their carbines at rest, pulling up suddenly and firing a volley into the air. But in spite of the rudeness of their military education, there can be no doubt that the amount of discipline instilled into them inspires them with some confidence in their own prowess, and renders them better troops than are to be found in most Native States. The men are entirely Mahomedan.

Trade.

108. The trade of this State has not been heretofore registered in all districts. To supply the want in future, measures were taken last February to establish registers at all custom posts, and traffic is now being regularly recorded.

Trade of Tonk District.

109. Tonk itself is one of the principal marts in Rajpootana, and is the centre of a considerable trade. The following Return of imports and exports in the Tonk District only may, therefore, be of some value:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
Cotton ...	mds. 16,188 ... Rs. 1,94,256		mds. 22,420 ... Rs. 2,69,040	
Sugar	,, 20,232 ... ,,	3,03,525	,, 9,118 ... ,,	1,36,770
Salt	,, 63,996 ... ,,	63,996	,, 38,605 ... ,,	38,605
Grain	,, 19,627 ... ,,	39,254	,, 8,942 ... ,,	17,884
Tobacco ...	,, 1,233 ... ,,	19,728	,, 778 ... ,,	12,608
Opium ...	,, 58 ... ,,	23,200	,, 100 ... ,,	40,000
English piece-goods	,, 2,950 ... ,,	2,36,000	,, 1,597 ... ,,	1,27,760
Country cloth ...	,, 1,459 ... ,,	43,770	,, 1,375 ... ,,	41,250
Wool	,, 36 ... ,,	1,150	,, 36 ... ,,	1,150
Copper vessels ...	,, 600 ... ,,	30,000	,, 400 ... ,,	20,000
Groceries ...	,, 4,807 ... ,,	86,536	,, 1,785 ... ,,	32,130
Total ...	,, 131,186 ... ,,	10,41,415	,, 85,166 ... ,,	7,37,197

110. The recent rise in the price of cotton has given a great impulse to this trade. During the months of March and April 16,270 maunds were exported to Agra, or one-third more than had been despatched during the previous 22 months. The streets of Tonk were for a time crowded with carts laden with the staple from the neighbourhood, as well as from Meywar, Jeypore, and British Ajmere. After being weighed and packed in bales the cotton was despatched towards Calcutta *viâ* Agra without delay.

Cotton trade.

111. In other commodities, too, the returns of traffic during the past two months are most satisfactory; the total weight of exports and imports amounted to 129,396 maunds as compared with 76,755 maunds during the preceding ten months. March and April are certainly the busiest months of the year, but the spring has mainly arisen from the reduction of the tariff last February. Custom duties were then lowered by about one-half, or to the rates at which they had stood until 1866.

Effect of reduced tariff.

The town of Tonk forms a central depôt for merchandize either proceeding from or to the surrounding districts. It is imperatively necessary, therefore, that the tariff should be extremely moderate; otherwise the trade would immediately divert into other routes and channels avoiding Tonk territory.

112. Sugar, which forms an important article of import, is received entirely from Agra. Salt comes from Sambhur, but the greater portion merely passes through the district *en route* to Haraotee and Central India. Jeypore supplies the grain required.

Trade in sugar, salt, &c.

113. In the Neembhera, Perawa, and Chuppra Districts, the principal article of export is opium. The last named pergunnah generally freights 200 chests of opium annually to Indore. This is much exceeded by both Neembhera and Perawa. A small quantity of opium is also produced in Seronge and Rampoora, and exported. In return, these districts import sugar, salt, English piece-goods, &c.

Trades of outlying districts.

114. There is but one dispensary in the State, which was established three years ago at the capital. The Native Doctor in charge is respected, and performs his duty cheerfully and well. The institution is working satisfactorily and is finding favour in the eyes of the people. A new building for the dispensary is in course of construction, and, when completed, will afford ample accommodation for in-patients.

Dispensary.

Returns showing the attendance of patients, &c., are forwarded monthly to the Office of the Superintendent of Raj Dispensaries, by whom they are abstracted and submitted annually to the Governor General's Agent and to the Government of India. It seems unnecessary, therefore, to detail them in this paper.

115. In conclusion, I would crave indulgence for the length of this Report, which has assumed an amplitude I did not contemplate. But the subject

Conclusion.

swelled with fulness; and it appeared to me that, as the Government of India can only obtain reliable information regarding the revenues, population, resources, and other interesting particulars of Native Principalities during minorities, the present opportunity should not be lost, and that such facts as have come within my cognizance by enquiry should be set forth.

I have endeavoured, therefore, besides portraying the mere current of affairs during 1868-69, to record all the statistical information I could gather at the risk of being deemed tedious and prolix, though I am painfully aware that the statistics that have found place in this Report are meagre, and can only be regarded as approximately correct, and that deductions drawn therefrom are open to a wide margin of error.

APPENDIX A.

GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE TONK STATE.

HARROWTEE AGENCY REPORT.

In addition to the States of Boondee, Kotah, and Jhallawar, the limits of the Harrowtee Agency now embrace a political supervision over the Principality of Tonk; and as nothing has occurred within my charge during the period under review of a nature so important as the events which have connected Tonk with this Office, I will here briefly allude to them.

2. The differences which for many years existed between the Nawab and his vassal, the Thakoor of Lawa, in August last culminated in a painful tragedy at the Tonk Capital, the circumstances of which have been fully reported on elsewhere; and, under the orders of Her Majesty's Government, Nawab Mahomed Alli Khan was deposed; his eldest son, Ibrahim Alli Khan, declared Ruler of Tonk; and the Minister, Hukeem Surwur Shah, at whose house the massacre took place, sentenced to life incarceration as a State prisoner at Chunar. It was further ordered that the petty chiefship of Lawa should henceforth cease to be a fiefship of Tonk, and in the future remain under the British Government; that the Nawab's salute be reduced from 17 to 11 guns; and that the heirs of the Lawa people killed on the occasion be pensioned from the revenues of Tonk.

Tonk.

3. In obedience to the request of the Governor General's Agent, the Ex-Nawab surrendered himself at Deolee in December last, and was conveyed under a suitable escort to Benares, his future place of residence.

4. In January, I accompanied Colonel Keatinge to the capital. The new Nawab was proclaimed Ruler of Tonk in open Durbar; Hukeem Surwur Shah made over to the Military and despatched to his destination; and under instructions I was left there to carry out the details of forming a new administration.

5. Though sufficiently advanced in years, the mental inability of the young Nawab, from want of training and education, immediately to assume power, was obviously apparent, and, as a temporary arrangement, it was decided by His Excellency the Viceroy to govern the principality by a Council of Regency under the presidency of the boy's uncle, Sahibzadah Ibadoollah Khan, at whose request, and at the earnest wish of the Ex-Nawab, the suggestion of appointing a resident officer was approved; Lieutenant J. Blair, Assistant Agent, Governor General, appointed; and the State placed under the general supervision of this Agency.

Mr. Blair having submitted a detailed Report on the Tonk State, which is forwarded in original, a very few remarks from me will, I take it, suffice.

6. It would be extremely difficult to compress into a limited space all that might be said of the landed tenures on which so large a portion of the Tonk revenue depends; and as the Assistant Agent's Report has entered so fully into particulars, I have little to add.

Mr. Blair sets forth the condition of the Seronge District, which has for many years been a declining one. The relative value of money must necessarily affect agricultural prosperity for better or worse. The assessment in this district being a fixed money rate, the portion of the net produce it represents will depend not only on the quantity of the produce raised, but also on the market price; so that, although an assessment be made with the greatest accuracy at one time, the relation to the produce will not long remain the same. It is evident, however, that the present settlement is burdensome and excessive, and the necessity of carrying out the suggestion contained in paragraph 61 of Lieutenant Blair's Report can be avoided only by adopting the alternative of effecting a fresh settlement on more equitable terms.

7. It is equally imperious that the increase made on the eight years' settlement of 1861 in the Perawa District should be remitted. The landholders are dejected and threatened to emigrate; the hope of justice under the new *régime* alone restrains them.

8. I have in previous Reports touched upon other sources of revenue. In respect to indirect taxation, the Ex-Nawab certainly failed to appreciate the first object of a financier, *viz.*, to determine primarily whether an article be a legitimate subject for it; large remissions, consequently, have been inevitable.

As already shown, the finances of the State are in a very unsatisfactory condition; and although the estimate for 1868-69 is more encouraging than we were at first in a position to anticipate, I fear the Council have been too sanguine, and that actual results will not substantiate the accuracy of the financial statement submitted through the Assistant Agent, Governor General, at Tonk.

9. To arrive at anything resembling a reliable conclusion during the short time we have been called upon to interfere has been in consequence of the utter confusion and absence of all system in the State Offices of account, a work of no little labour, and very great patience; and I would here bring to the very favourable notice of superior authority my high sense of Lieutenant J. Blair's unwearied exertions and assistance. The Report of that officer, herewith submitted, is, I venture to think, not only an interesting paper, but one the preparation of which must, during his brief residence at Tonk, have been the result of much care and enquiry.

BOONDEE.

10. In my last Report I brought to notice the difficulty with which ordinary business was transacted with this State in consequence of the passive opposition evinced by the Durbar to any measure of improvement suggested, and I regret it is out of my power to communicate any change for the better, nor can I express any hope of amelioration in this respect under existing circumstances.

11. Of all the Princes in Rajpootana, Maharao Rajah Ram Singh of Boondee is, and has been for years, distinguished as, perhaps, the most conservatively religious of ancient customs; and His Highness would seem to regard any and every proposition submitted to him which involves change, however clearly beneficial that change may be, as a breach of the iron law of immemorial usage, and, as such, to be opposed to the utmost.

It is true we can insist upon the institution of proper measures for the suppression of crime, the protection of property, and the prevention of barbarities, when their inefficiency becomes apparent; but the attitude evinced by the Durbar is disheartening, in so far that it is an effectual bar to progressive reform, and not only retards the onward stride of civilization, more or less perceptible in other parts of Rajpootana, but clogs the wheels of justice.

A more perfect Native gentleman, in appearance, manner, and address than the Maharao Rajah of Boondee, it would be difficult to meet. At the Viceregal Durbar of 1862, His Excellency Lord Elgin considered him the most aristocratic-looking Prince in the assembly. He is well-read in most subjects, and learned in some; and it is therefore much to be regretted that he should so persistently evince a wilful disregard to the real well-being of his people.

12. I am glad to say the Durbar have at length taken measures to improve the building hitherto utilized as a jail, and money is now being spent in rendering it more fit to accommodate prisoners.

13. I need hardly say, after recording the disposition of this Durbar, that it is almost hopeless to expect their aid in acquiring reliable statistical information on any subject.

But in this matter Boondee is not singular; the same jealousy to furnish such information is apparent throughout Rajpootana, and consequently the difficulties of preparing Returns with any confidence as to their being correct are manifold.

The system of registering trade, for instance, is throughout Harrowtee very defective, and even were the Durbars willing to furnish all the information in their power, their entries would suggest but a general approximate idea of the imports and exports of the country, and this has been already furnished; one's means of learning such details, therefore, are confined to personal observation and enquiry, and it takes time to arrive at conclusions of sufficient value to record.

KOTAH.

14. No remarkable event has occurred in this State during the past twelve months.

The Maharao has, I am glad to observe, reported further reductions in expenditure, amounting to some Rupees 76,000 during the year, and as the demise last month of the late Chief's wife, the Maharanee Man Koomur Baie, a daughter of Maharana Sirdar Singh, of Meywar, causes a lapse to the State of a jageer worth Rupees 60,000 per annum, a financial equilibrium has, it may be said, been restored, and His Highness deserves credit for having done so much during but a two years' incumbency.

The cost of the Army is still, in my opinion, excessive, but I have reason to hope it may be further reduced during the next few months.

15. The Maharao, I regret to say, continues to indulge immoderately in the use of intoxicating liquors. His Highness assures me he confines himself to night potations, but other information of a credible nature does not bear this out. At the best of times His Highness's mental capacities could not have been extensive, but this vice,

if not checked—and to check it in a person of the Maharao's age and position is easier said than done—must soon destroy his intellect entirely.

Already are affairs left, as must be the case under such circumstances, too much in the hands of his Minister, Gunesh Lall, a man who, though by no means wanting in ability, and, I think, good intention, is somewhat hard and unyielding in his demands upon the people.

The Maharao again assures me he will abstain from too free indulgence, but I very much doubt his ability to do so.

16. A better feeling has existed of late between the Durbar and the Kotree Chiefs of Harrowtee: this is a great improvement over the past one; I shall do my utmost to make it lasting.

17. I am glad also to report that the Durbar would appear during the period under review to have shown more regard for pecuniary obligations than has hitherto been evinced. There are matters, it is true, from which we hold ourselves practically aloof; but as good Government is impossible so long as public faith remains impaired in the integrity and word of a Ruler, any improvement in this respect deserves mention.

JHALLAWAR.

18. The Maharaj Rana, after a prolonged pilgrimage, returned to his capital in September last. The administration of the State was satisfactorily conducted during His Highness's absence, and nothing has occurred during the year under review to call for special remark.

19. It affords me great pleasure in having another opportunity of bringing to notice the cordial feeling entertained by the Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar towards the British Government.

His Highness does most of his own work, and though I can't say the administration of the country is eminently satisfactory, or that the Chief is gifted with any extraordinary powers of application or habits of business, the advantages are manifold when the people know that their fortunes are not, as is too often the case, left entirely in the hands of some self-interested executive.

20. The Maharaj Rana entertains enlightened views upon most matters, and an ambition to stand well with Government, which greatly facilitates the transaction of business.

His Highness has intimated a desire to introduce into his country a system for the administration of justice founded upon the Civil and Criminal Procedures of our Courts; and has begged me to procure for him the services of two men thoroughly acquainted with the working of these Codes. With a view to placing the matter properly before the Governor General's Agent, I begged His Highness to address me in writing on the subject, and I shortly expect to be in receipt of a communication.

The Maharaj Rana is also very anxious to effect a fresh settlement of the land revenue, and the services of an experienced Deputy *Collector have been applied for.*

21. Kotah has suffered considerable agricultural distress during the past year, consequent upon too free exportation and unseasonable rain, which injuriously affected the khureef harvest.

Food prices accordingly ranged very high; large parcels of culturable land remained fallow for want of seed; some eight or ten thousand of the people are said to have emigrated into neighbouring States; and the Durbar were compelled to import from our North-Western British District.

22. As considerable quantities of grain are annually furnished by this State for the use of the Neemuch Cantonment, any scarcity in Kotah seriously affects us.

The Maharao asked for exemption from furnishing the usual supplies during the current year, on the plea that exportation would again result in a paucity of seed, and consequent dearth; but, at the desire of the Governor General's Agent, I have, both verbally and in writing, explained to His Highness the great inconvenience which would arise to our troops thereby, and although I doubt the ability of the Durbar to export all that is required, the Chief will, I think, meet our wishes as liberally as he can.

23. The general health throughout the limits of this Agency has been good. Seldom or ever does a year pass by without marking, in the populous cities of Kotah, Tonk, Boondee, and Jhalra Patun, the advent of some epidemic; and as the affinity between cleanliness and health is in most Native towns utterly ignored by the absence of sanitation of any kind, it is less astonishing that they should be thus annually visited, than that disease once contracted should not rage more furiously.

24. A few cases of cholera occurred in the districts, but considering the ravages of this terrible disease in Upper India about the same period, its type was of a mild character in Harrowtee.

The Station of Deolee, however, I regret to say, was less fortunate, and for the first time since its occupation cholera made its appearance. Assistant Surgeon DeFabeck having already submitted a full Report on this subject, I will only add my sense of that officer's exertions during the epidemic, which well deserve encomium.

25. The general working of the Harrowtee Dispensaries has been satisfactory.

At Kotah the removal of the Native Doctor, upon whose inefficiency I commented in my last Report, has been fraught with considerable advantage to the success of the institution. The present incumbent has evidently striven to gain confidence, and the people are beginning readily to seek relief.

26. The Vaccination Returns of this State have for many years been unsatisfactory, and this I attribute also to the ignorance and apathy of the late Native Doctor, from whom his subordinates without doubt took their cues.

I trust there may be considerable improvement in this matter now. The Maharao has issued to the chief Civil Officers of districts a perwanah directing them to urge upon the people the advantages of vaccination as a prophylactic; and as Durbar encouragement is wanted to ensure success, this may do a great deal.

27. The Jhallawar Dispensary, under the able and zealous management of Native Doctor Mahomed Maheem Khan, continues to be a valuable institution.

The Dispensary at Tonk has been spoken of by Lieutenant Blair.

During the year the Maharajah of Indurgurh expressed to me a desire to establish a dispensary at his capital.

The necessary instruments and medicines have been purchased, and the services of a Native Doctor applied for.

28. I have the honor to attach a Tabular General Statement of the working of the Harrowtee International Court of Vakeels for the official year under review, showing the estimated value of property plundered, the amount of compensation awarded, &c.

Each case is furnished in detail in the Returns submitted quarterly to the Governor General's Agent.

29. Two mail robberies have occurred during the year, one in Boondee, the other in Kotah. The latter was of a serious nature, involving the death of the hurkarra, who was shot. Efforts have hitherto been fruitlessly made to trace the offenders, but I have recently been informed that the Durbar think they have apprehended the chief one. Both cases have been adjudicated, and compensation decreed against the States wherein they occurred. The widow of the deceased carrier has been awarded a pension to be paid by the Kotah State.

30. It appeared to me that compensation for property plundered in robberies of the mail was awarded by the International Courts upon evidence which in other cases would require substantiation. For example, the Postal authorities would report an outrage, and furnish a list of articles carried away, whereon the Court would make their award if the crime were proved. But the simple *ipse dixit* of a sender is insufficient evidence upon which to compensate, and I submitted the matter, after corresponding with the Postmaster General, North-Western Provinces, for the consideration and orders of the Governor General's Agent. It has now been decided that, when practicable, losses of this nature must, as in other instances, be made clear to the Court, and that under any circumstances must the claimant affirm his loss before the Magistrate of the district or nearest Political Officer.

31. During the year under review, Treaties for the reciprocal extradition of criminal offenders have been effected with the States under this Agency, and it affords me pleasure to report that, whilst some Chiefs were by no means eager to enter into these engagements with the British Government, the Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar urged the desirability of similar reciprocity between the various Chiefships in Rajpootana.

There can be no question that, until the application of these Treaties be extended in such manner, the States will derive but little benefit, inasmuch as criminals will invariably seek shelter in some neighbouring principality where they can enjoy perfect immunity and defeat justice.

32. I endeavoured in my Report of last year to give a full account of the Meena Districts, over which the Political Agent of Harrowtee exercises a general supervision; and judging by a comparative review of crime—a fair test when speaking of predatory tribes—I am glad to be in a position to state that their condition has improved rather than deteriorated; and I do not hesitate to record my belief that this part of Rajpootana may now be traversed as safely as any other.

The Meena Districts.

33. Two murders have occurred in the Kerar during the past twelvemonth; one at the village of Oomurwassir, where a well-to-do Bunyah was killed by some person or persons who have up to this date, notwithstanding the offer of a large reward, escaped detection. The other was perpetrated at Etoonda, and the murderer seized red-handed; this was simply a malicious crime, which might have occurred anywhere, and cannot therefore be regarded as an instance of exceptional lawlessness in the Kerar. Both the victim and his assassin were Mahomedan subjects of Meywar, and the latter has been made over for punishment to the Oodeypore Durbar.

34. No instance of infanticide has been brought to notice during the year. I have in preparation a Tabular Statement showing the Meena population of these districts and the percentage of girls to boys, which will shortly be submitted.

35. I have for some time past observed that the Meenas were evincing more reluctance to take service in the Deolee Irregular Force than in former days, and I consulted the Commandant on the subject. That officer informed me that the same thing was apparent to him: that the Meena Sepoys were anxious to take their discharge, and that the difficulty of replacing them by efficient recruits from the same tribe was very great. I do not think there is cause for surprise in this; and I cannot but regard the fact as a very conclusive one that the general status of the Meena has greatly improved.

36. Colonel MacDonald, in addressing me on the subject, writes:—

"In the infancy of the force many men found in it protection from the oppression of Native Rulers (of Boondee in particular) and from the consequences of their own lawless deeds. No enquiry was made into the antecedents of men offering as recruits, and the marks of jail discipline proved no disqualification. * * * * * * * * * Now the hand of the oppressor is stayed, and crimes against property have so diminished in your districts, that my corps is no longer required as a refuge to the weak and an asylum for the lawless, and thus I am in some measure deprived of a class of men who for the last eleven years have proved themselves my best soldiers."

37. All this to my mind proves a degree of prosperity which previously never existed, for the soldier-like appearance of the Meena Sepoy, and the pride he evidently takes whilst so employed, are sufficient to show that military avocations, as such, are in no way distasteful to him, but rather the reverse; that sufficient inducement only is required to secure his services: but that his improved social condition renders that which it was worth his while to accept ten years ago unalluring now.

(Sd.) A. N. BRUCE, *Capt.*,
Poltl. Agent, Harrowtee.

The 20th May 1868.

Tabular General Statement showing the working of the Harrowtee International Court of Vakeels for the official year 1867-68.

Designation of Court.	No. of cases on file at close of 1866-67.	No. of cases instituted.	Estimated value of property plundered.	Amount of compensation awarded for property plundered, and against what State.								Total amount paid.	No. of people killed.	No. of people wounded.	No. convicted.	No. acquitted.	No. died.	No. escaped.	No. of cases transferred.	No. of cases amicably adjusted out of Court.	Amount of blood-money awarded, and against what State.							Total amount paid.	Average duration of cases.	Average detention of witnesses.	No. of cases disposed of in 1867-68.	No. of cases on file at close of 1867-68.
				Meywar.	Jeypore.	Boondee.	Kotah.	Tonk.	Jhallawar.												Meywar.	Jeypore.	Boondee.	Kotah.	Tonk.	Jhallawar.				
Harrowtee Court of Vakeels ...	28	77	Rs. 62,165 11 6	Rs. 1,045 0 0	Rs. 3,230 7 4	Rs. 4,241 1 2	Rs. 9,381 1 3	Rs. 1,810 5 9	Rs. 21 14 0				Rs. 19,729 13 6	5	10	23	23	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	Rs. 50 0 0	...	...		Rs. 50 0 0	54 $\frac{15}{49}$ days.	3 $\frac{10}{189}$ days.	98	7

A.

POLITICAL RELATIONS.—*I. Native States.*

Number.	Name of State.	In Subsidiary alliance, or Feudatory.	Tribute in men or money.	Population.	Supposed gross revenue.	Military Forces and Police.	Transit duties, or not.	Principal articles of production, including manufactures and mines.
					Rupees.			
1	Boondee ...	Feudatory ...	Rupees 1,20,000	224,000	5,00,000	4,050	Transit duties ...	Grain, arms, iron mines.
2	Kotah ...	Ditto ...	Rupees 1,84,720 Contribution towards military expenditure, Rupees 2,00,000.	450,000	25,00,000	8,675	Transit duties, save on grain for Neemuch Cantonment.	Grain, opium, arms, cloth, paper, cotton, pottery.
3	Jhallawar ...	Ditto ...	Rupees 80,000	226,000	15,00,000	7,135	Ditto ...	Opium, cotton.
4	Tonk ...	Ditto ...	...	308,000	14,00,000	2,997	Transit duties ...	Grain, opium.

B.

Native Chiefs and their Heirs.

Name and title of Chief and State.	Present position.	Caste, or race and religion.	Age.	How educated.	How employed.	Has Sunnud of adoption, or not.	Family follow primogeniture, or not.	Has male heirs, or not.	REMARKS.
Maharao Rajah Ram Singh of Boondee ...	An independent Chief in protective alliance with the British Government.	Hindoo Rajpoot of the Hara tribe.	57	Thoroughly well educated. In some subjects learned.	...	Has Sunnud.	Follows primogeniture.	Has one son.	
Maharao Sutroosal Singh of Kotah ...	Ditto	Ditto ...	29	Has but a superficial knowledge of Hindee.	...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Has no heir.	
Maharaj Rana Pirthee Singh of Jhallawar ...	Ditto	Hindoo Rajpoot of the Jhalla tribe.	39	A good Hindee education.	...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.	
Nawab Ibrahim Ally Khan of Tonk ...	Ditto	Mahomedan, of the Bonair tribe.	21	Quite uneducated.	...	Ditto ...	Does not necessarily.	Ditto.	

(Sd.) A. N. BRUCE, *Capt.*,
Poltl. Agent, Harrowtee.

SIROHI REPORT.

No. 245-9P., dated 19th May 1868.

From—Lieut. W. J. W. Muir, Political Superintendent of Sirohi.

To—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Keatinge, c. s. i., v. c., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

I have the honor to submit the following remarks on the Sirohi State for the year 1867-68:—

2. As communicated in my last Report, the Rao had for some length of time evinced a marked distrust of his Minister, Syud Niyamut Ali, a feeling which subsequently intensified, until His Highness ceased entirely to transact business with him.

Whilst, on the one hand, the loss to the State of an official who had during a 30 years' service in its employ acquired an intimate knowledge of the country, the Thakoors, and people, could not but be deplored, on the other, it was a relief to all parties, and, perhaps, to no one more than the Minister himself, when the Chief in May last finally decided on relieving him of Office.

In recognition of his past services a pension of Rupees 100 per mensem was settled on the Syud in addition to the jageer conferred upon him by the present Rao's father.

3. A change in the chief executive office of a State must, as necessarily affecting the whole administration, be a source of considerable anxiety. Fortunately, the Rao's selection of Moonshee Ameen Mahomed, formerly an *employé* of the Rao of Cutch, was a very happy one, and the new Minister, by judicious zeal, energy, and ability, has not only won the respect and confidence of the Chief and principal Thakoors, but has infused into all departments a degree of life and vigour which promises encouragingly.

4. In my last Report I referred to the class of persons employed in the State as Kamdars or chief district officers, commenting on the inadequacy of their pay, their general inefficiency, and my inability to induce the Chief to secure the services of better men by the offer of more liberal remuneration. It therefore gives me much pleasure to report that, during his visit to Aboo last hot weather, His Highness consented to carry out my suggestions in this matter. The best of the old Kamdars were retained. The others, men notoriously corrupt, were permitted to retire. To excite emulation, as well as to introduce improvement, the places of the latter were filled by the entertainment of several foreigners. The pay of the former was raised from Rupees 5, 6, and 12, to Rupees 20, and that of the latter fixed at Rupees 30, both being promised an increase for good service. Further, their powers and jurisdiction were defined. Civil suits up to Rupees 75 were declared to be within their cognizance. In more ordinary criminal cases they were authorized to award one month's imprisonment with fine extending to Rupees 20; appeals from their decisions and all more important cases being submitted to the Dewan of the State. Rules were also prepared for their guidance,

and attention specially drawn to exertions towards improved protective arrangements and the extension of cultivation.

The result of these arrangements has not as yet been very apparent; indeed, the insufficient staff and establishment allowed to each Kamdar, too small for the collection of revenue and the duties of Police, precludes the possibility of much being done. At the same time, a great advance has been made. Previously it was hopeless to expect improvement; now we may fairly do so. Already has a spirit of emulation evinced itself amongst the Kamdars, and with a desire to encourage the feeling by showing that an interest was taken in their proceedings, Progress Reports have on several occasions been called for.

5. When effecting the changes above alluded to, it transpired that there was no recorded information of any kind in respect to the pergunnahs of the State. A form was accordingly drawn out, embracing such statistical data as were likely to prove of interest or use, and officials were specially appointed for its preparation. I had hoped to have been able to submit a condensed Tabular Statement of the information thus collected; but some of the Returns, I regret to say, are not yet to hand; I must therefore temporarily defer doing so.

6. Hitherto, in addition to his executive duties, all civil and criminal cases of ordinary importance, as also appeals from the decisions of the Kamdars and the Kotwal of Sirohi, were referred to the Dewan. The consequence was, that little, if any, redress was obtainable through the Durbar. To remedy this evil, a Civil and a Criminal Court with appellate powers were, during the past 12 months, established at the capital, and officers specially selected for ability and integrity appointed to preside over them. A code of simple rules was prepared for the guidance of the Civil Court, and, at the request of the Chief, revised by myself prior to issue. In these rules His Highness has approved a very radical change. It had formerly been the custom to levy costs on the party gaining a suit; the costs being one-fourth of the total amount decreed. In the new code, costs are leviable on the party against whom judgment is given. Institution fees and a scale of charges based on those obtaining in our own Courts are also laid down. These innovations experienced the reception generally accorded to anything new in a Native State, and for some time no suits were filed. Gradually, however, as the people began to understand the object of the rules, suitors came forward, and now the Court has more work than, with the limited establishment sanctioned, it can perform. The same remarks apply to the Criminal Court, for which, however, no code of rules has as yet been prepared. The subject engages the attention of the Chief, and I am hopeful that another month will see a code in force.

Appeals from the decisions of these Courts lie to the Minister, or, in other words, to the Chief, who passes orders on all such cases himself.

As yet it can hardly be said that the working of these Courts is satisfactory; nor can it be, so long as the Chief interferes in and withdraws cases which are pending. This he is especially apt to do in matters affecting Brahmans, Bhats, Charuns, Gosains, and religious mendicants generally. In many instances, too, the Courts are unable to enforce their own decrees. Still, taking them all in all, they have undoubtedly given great relief to the bulk of the people, and from conversations I have had

with the Chief, I am sanguine His Highness will see the wisdom of limiting his interference in future.

7. The very unsatisfactory state of the Customs Department had on several occasions been urged upon the Rao's consideration. Dues were levied throughout the country most arbitrarily, and on His Highness taking up the subject, it was found that the Raj itself was totally unacquainted with the nature of the duties taken, or the principle upon which they were exacted. In point of fact, the Collectors were in a position to levy what they chose, without check upon their accounts. With such an absence of system, the State was undoubtedly defrauded of legitimate dues. Not only did its revenue suffer, but its trade also; for it is idle to suppose that ill-paid functionaries, such as those employed, did not charge exorbitantly; and that merchants did not naturally avoid exposure to such extortions when possible.

With a view to the preparation of one uniform scale of customs duties to be levied only on the frontier, measures are now in operation, the result of which shall be communicated hereafter.

8. During the year five deserted villages have been re-established, and grants issued for the re-occupation of three others, while a total of 425 families from foreign States have settled in Sirohi.

All the villages referred to in my last Report as having been established in the previous year are progressing well. I may specially mention Oomedghur, which, when I visited it in January last, contained a population of 500 souls. At the request of the people who were still in huts, I lined out several wide streets in accordance with which they promised to build.

With a view to their reclamation, the extensive jungle tracts to the south of Aboo, locally known as the "Girwar-Mawul-Putta," were, in February last, formed into a separate pergunnah with a distinct Kamdar and establishment.

9. The measures taken by the Durbar for the re-occupation of the country have attached a value to land which, jealous as they are of their rights in the soil, it never before possessed in the eyes of the Chiefs and people. Disputes have consequently arisen, and claims and counter-claims been advanced on every hand. For the settlement of these and other outstanding questions, the Durbar decided on appointing a special officer, and in November last, a Native of our Upper Provinces, fairly acquainted with surveying, was entertained; eight boundary disputes, two of very long standing, have been adjusted, and a number of sketch maps of others, with the files relating to them, submitted for the orders of the Durbar.

10. The Grassias have in a previous Report been alluded to as originally spreading from Meywar into Sirohi. The immigration has since continued in greater or less numbers, and in the Rewaee Pergunnah, on the eastern frontier of the State, nine new villages have been established and 236 families settled in the past five years; three of these villages have come into existence in the year under notice. I had not till January last had an opportunity of visiting this part of Sirohi for two years, but even that short period had brought about a very perceptible change in the face of the country. The jungle had been cleared and large tracts brought under rain cultivation. The

hill streamlets had everywhere been utilized for irrigational purposes, and in many places the water brought with extreme skill and labour in channels one and two miles in length.

The great difficulty here, as elsewhere, has been to bind the Grassias to one fixed residence, and with this view every endeavour has been made to induce and encourage them to dig wells. The Kamdar and Thannadar of the pergunnah, both excellent men, have so far succeeded, that in the past two years 37 have been sunk.

11. In the Butrole Pergunnah the Grassias are still spreading slowly but steadily southwards, some from the "Bhakur" or Sirohi Hills, others, again, direct from Meywar. The jungle lands at the base of Aboo seem to have attracted this race, and here, as in the Rewaee Districts, they have in places cleared large tracts. Six new wells have been sunk during the year and six others commenced upon.

12. The Chief has, during the 12 months under notice, entertained a larger force of Sebundy than previously. This has been necessitated by the maintenance of the new posts established in the Grassia tracts and by an increase in the subordinate staff of the Kamdars. His Highness has further enlisted 50 Poorbeeas, whom, with a similar number of picked men from his own troops, he intends forming into a regular company, to be armed with the fuzils presently on their way from the Agra Magazine.

13. I now proceed to touch upon the efforts which have been made during the year to extend education throughout the State.

At the capital itself, a school-house has been completed, which, in August last, was formally opened by the Rao in person in presence of the principal Nobles and myself. English, Oordoo, and Hindee Teachers have been appointed, but the passive opposition of the priesthood, who here, as elsewhere, regard anything of the kind as an interference with their prerogative as secular teachers, has hitherto operated injuriously against any large attendance of scholars.

This drawback I look upon as a temporary one only.

At Muddar a commodious building has been erected and the services of competent teachers in the vernacular and accounts secured. The attendance embraces nearly all the children of the place, and the interest taken by all classes in the success of the institution is most satisfactory. The Revd. Mr. Martin, of the Beawr Mission, visited the school in April last, and informed me he was much pleased with the intelligence and interest exhibited by young and old.

At Rohera a dispute which arose between the two sects of Jains prevented for some length of time any action being taken in regard to the erection of a school-house. Lately, however, one has been commenced on, which work is reported to be progressing rapidly.

At Kalindree, I found the school in course of erection to be situated in a crowded quarter in the centre of the town, a spot most unsuitable for the object in view. On pointing this out, both the Thakoor and Mahajuns agreed to one being built on an open site outside, where, at their request, I laid out a building, which is now almost completed. The other was put up to auction, and realized almost double what it had

actually cost, so that the change has been an advantageous one in every way.

At Pindwarra, the inhabitants during my stay decided on erecting a school-room and sending for a good teacher. An eligible site was selected before I left, and work has, I learn, been commenced.

The value and importance of education are undoubtedly being recognized throughout the country. This feeling is no doubt attributable in a large measure to the close mercantile relations existing between Sirohi, Guzerat, and Bombay, and is proved by the readiness everywhere evinced to subscribe towards the erection of school-houses and the entertainment of a better class of teachers. The great difficulty lies with the Thakoors, who will not send their children to be taught. The importance of their doing so is a subject I endeavour to impress upon all with whom I come in contact, but as yet I have only succeeded in getting the sons of three jagirdars to attend school.

14. The building commenced last year at the capital for a dispensary was completed in September, but it was not till March that the services of a Native Doctor were available. This person appears to have gained the good will and confidence of the people, for the attendance of patients is satisfactory and increasing. These facts speak highly for the Native Doctor, when it is remembered that the institution is the first of its kind in Sirohi, and that the people in such matters are unusually bigoted and suspicious.

15. The following is an abstract of the receipts and disbursements of the State for Sumbut 1923, corresponding with 1866-67, as furnished by the Durbar:—

RECEIPTS.						DISBURSEMENTS.					
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.* *p.*		*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.* *p.*
Land Revenue ...	69,730	10	0			Tribute to British Government for year ending 30th April 1867	7,500	0	0		
Transit Dues ...	29,342	6	0			Household expenses of His Highness the Rao	6,970	2	6		
Excise	2,812	14	0			Fund of His Highness the Rao for private expenditure and charities ...	4,870	7	3		
Miscellaneous items ...	11,660	12	6			Presents, gifts, and khilluts... ...	3,551	9	0		
Tax on account of the marriage of His Highness's sister to the Maharajah of Marwar	23,654	14	3			Supplies furnished to and entertainments of guests, rations to persons employed on Government service, works, &c. ..	8,859	8	6		
Tax levied on Grassia tracts for expenses of expedition against them	3,665	15	9			Stables, including purchase of new horses, camels, elephant, and bullock establishment ...	25,895	6	6		
				1,40,867	8 6	Tent equipage ...	354	7	9		
Uncollected balance in the pergunnahs on the 27th July 1866	14,908	12	9			Presents to temples and at festivals ...	2,666	13	6		
Balance in Raj Treasury on the 27th July 1866 ...	41,614	1	3								
Balance in Raj Kothar by grain, &c., on the 27th July 1867 ...	5,992	14	3								
				62,515	12 3						
Carried forward ...				2,03,383	4 9	Carried forward ...				60,668	7 0

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	DISBURSEMENTS.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward				2,03,383	4	9	Brought forward ...	60,668	7	0			
							Buildings and repairs to buildings and roads	6,016	10	6			
							Preparation and repairs of tanks and wells	2,337	5	3			
							Pay of officials, including Office establishments	10,421	8	3			
							Troops and contingent expenses ...	30,008	4	6			
							Police and Thannah expenses ...	6,048	14	9			
							Jail expenses ...	3,140	1	0			
							Awards of Courts of Vakeels	1,158	13	6			
							Expenses of expedition against Grassia tracts	10,407	7	0			
							Marriage expenses of His Highness's sister to the Maharajah of Marwar.. ...	18,458	5	6			
							Miscellaneous items ...	7,135	10	9			
											1,55,801	8	0
							Uncollected balance in the pergunnahs on the 2nd July 1867	12,081	5	3			
							Balance in Raj Treasury on 2nd July 1867	32,595	1	9			
							Balance in Raj Kothar by grain, &c., on 2nd July 1867 ...	2,905	5	9			
											47,581	12	9
Total ...				2,03,383	4	9	Total ...				2,03,383	4	9

The income from all sources during the year amounted to Rupees 1,40,867-8-6, or Rupees 14,824-1-9 more than that for the preceding year. Under the principal heads of "land revenue" and "transit dues," however, a decrease of Rupees 15,154 has occurred. As explained in my last Report, the assessment being chiefly levied in kind, any alteration in price necessarily affects the revenue, which during the period in question fell with the reduced rates of produce. The decrease in transit dues is explained by a diminution in the amount of cotton passing through the State.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Land Revenue ...	Rs. 76,053	Rs. 69,730
Transit dues ...	„ 38,173	„ 29,342

The actual expenditure exceeded the receipts by Rupees 14,934. Exceptional expenses incurred by the expedition against the Grassia tracts and the increase in army and establishments account for this. The consideration of the Chief was invited to the fact at my last interview with His Highness.

16. The peace of the country has been undisturbed throughout the year, nor have any such intestine disorders occurred as those previously chronicled.

17. In my last Report I submitted an account of the expedition His Highness led in person against the Grassias of the Hilly Tracts

in March 1867, and the measures adopted for their pacification. These were briefly—

1*st.*—Ignoring the mediation of a class of middlemen, through whom all communications had previously been maintained, thus bringing the Grassias into direct contact with their Durbar.

2*nd.*—The forming of the tract into a separate pergunnah with a distinct executive staff.

3*rd.*—The establishment of a post of a hundred men in the heart of the district; and

4*th.*—The clearing of a road through the country.

Engagements were also entered into by the heads of villages to the effect that their occupants should pay the same dues as those taken from their brethren in the plains.

Rupees 1¼ per plough on the rain crop and one-sixth of the produce of the spring crop.

During the rains, the Grassias appear to have repented of their promise to pay the stipulated amount. Several of the hamlets did pay the sum exigible on the rain crop, but by the beginning of the cold weather the majority had forsaken their homes and taken to the higher hills,—a course to which they had been instigated by the evil advice of two Chiefs sufficiently powerful to exercise a baneful influence. The Kamdar appears to have done nothing, and to have kept the Durbar in ignorance of what was passing. The real state of affairs, however, did not long remain concealed, and towards the end of February, as soon as the necessary arrangements could be matured, the Chief, accompanied by myself, proceeded with a force to the tract. The Kamdar was summarily dismissed. The disaffected Grassias were communicated with through those of their brethren who had remained loyal, but all refused to come in except on "bachan," or promise of safe conduct. This, it was intimated, would not in the future be conceded to them. Finally, after much delay, the Mookhies, or head-men, of several of the recusant communities presented themselves. They were kindly treated, and the dues leviable on the spring crop reduced from one-sixth to one-ninth,—an assessment with which they expressed themselves perfectly satisfied. Other hamlets soon followed their example, till, at length, all, with the exception of 2½ villages, gave in their submission without guarantee of any kind and re-occupied their homes. Two of the hamlets which held out had as head-men the evil advisers above referred to as having incited the tract to oppose the Durbar. These finally intimated their desire to come in if granted like terms with the rest, and, on receipt of a safe conduct, a guarantee, which was of course refused. The remainder of the tract having given in its adhesion, it would have been obviously impolitic, as tending to give the refractory few an importance in the eyes of their fellows, to have allowed the further passage to and fro of their messengers. It was therefore decided that communications should be brought to a close, and that the new Kamdar should be empowered to settle with them when they chose to present themselves at the Raj Thannah. This they did shortly after our departure, and were permitted to re-occupy their hamlets.

During this tour the whole of the district was again traversed, every hamlet visited in turn, and the road opened out last year

broadened and improved; but the great result of the expedition was the abolition of the system of "bachan," or safe conduct, without which no Grassia would formerly place himself in the power of the Durbar. The non-recognition of so deleterious a custom must be viewed as a great move towards the institution of peace and order throughout the tract.

With the exception of the *émeute* alluded to (an *emeute* which, I believe, might have been prevented, had the local authorities enquired into and referred for orders any grievances found to be existing in the tract), the Grassias gave no trouble throughout the year. No overt act of violence or opposition was committed; and whereas, in by-gone years, reports and complaints were matters of every-day occurrence, only two were preferred during the year, and they were of an ordinary nature. This result may, I venture to think, be considered very satisfactory when it is remembered that but two years have elapsed since the adoption of measures to render amenable to authority a people who had previously been left entirely to themselves and had learnt to look on themselves as independent.

18. During the cold weather I ascertained that "Samadh," or self-immolation by burial, was a common custom among lepers in this part of Rajpootana. The fact was communicated to the Rao, who at once issued a proclamation declaring the practice to be criminal, and any one assisting in, or cognizant with, and not preventing the same, punishable with rigorous imprisonment extending to 10 years and forfeiture of estate.

19. The existence also of a tribe of professional thieves (Bhats by caste) was discovered in three villages to the east of Aboo. It was ascertained that all the male members of this community annually visited Guzerat, Malwa, and Rajpootana, and by dexterity of hand, and often in disguise, collected much valuable property. Two of the fraternity, the only ones left at home, as also the jagirdar of one of the villages who was found to be a receiver, were apprehended, and a considerable amount of booty discovered in their houses. The Durbar is endeavouring to apprehend the remainder, regarding whom neighbouring officers have been addressed.

20. The difficulties referred to in my last Report, as connected with the supply of cooly labour for Aboo, have, I am happy to say, ceased to be experienced; the increase in the rates having proved a sufficient inducement for labourers to collect in numbers large enough to meet all requirements.

21. The question of carriage through the State has also been solved by assimilating the hire to the rates obtaining in the Pahlunpore State and the neighbouring cantonment of Deesa,—a measure which has given general satisfaction.

22. On Aboo the limits of the sanitarium have been marked out, and the land included therein made over by the Durbar to Government under certain stipulations, which relate to the killing of kine and birds, and to jurisdiction in cases in which subjects of the State are concerned. An annual ground-rent of Rupees 230 has further been sanctioned by

the Government of Bombay as compensation to the villagers for the loss of their lands.

23. Having thus touched briefly on the administration of Sirohi during the year, I may, perhaps, be permitted, in conclusion, to observe that, considering the very limited means its revenue affords and the formidable difficulty of having to govern a large area of sparsely populated, mountainous country, inhabited for the most part by a predatory people, the State will contrast favourably rather than otherwise with many in a better position. Whilst the Chief has very much yet to do in the interests of his country, his exertions during the past 12 months will, I feel sure, be regarded as very satisfactory.

No. 1385, dated 19th August 1868.

From—W. S. SETON-KARR, Esq., Secy. to Govt. of India, Foreign Dept., with G. G.

To—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C. S. I., V. C., Agent, Govr. Genl., Rajpootana.

I HAVE laid before His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council your letter dated 25th ultimo, No. 317P.-8, submitting the General Administration Report of the Rajpootana Agency for the year 1867-68. In reply, I am instructed to convey the sentiments of His Excellency in Council on such points as seem to call for remark.

2. I am directed to express a hope that the measures, reported in paragraphs 4 to 7, for the repression of crime in Bikaneer and the neighbouring States, may prove successful.

3. The Maharajah of Bikaneer, His Excellency in Council expects, will abide by the decision of the Commissioner of Hissar, in regard to the maafeedars and proprietors in the 41 villages given to him as a reward for services during the mutiny.

4. The termination of the enquiry into the invasion of Ulwur by Thakoor Lukdeer Singh, with the assistance of a band collected in the Jeypore territory, can hardly be regarded as satisfactory. The Governor General cannot understand why the real facts of the different complaints could not be ascertained.

5. The Governor General in Council is not prepared to place Ulwur under the special charge of a British officer. That system did not work well when the Chief was younger than he now is, and it would be still more obnoxious to him now. Beyond general supervision and good advice, and insisting on obedience to our injunctions in great matters, more interference is not desirable.

6. The Report of the state of affairs and of the revenue of Dholepore is, on the whole, satisfactory.

7. You are requested not to lose sight of the case of Kotharee Kesree Singh, and to report the course taken by the Maharana of Oodeypore in the matter of this person's re-employment.

8. The remarks in paragraph 17 of your Report, regarding the difficulty in apprehending criminals from Neembhera, Tonk, and Jawud Neemuch, have had His Excellency's serious attention. You are requested again to urge on the Maharajah the adoption of some practical measure which would remedy the evil.

9. The course of administration pursued by the Maharawul of Doongurpore has the cordial approbation of the Government of India, and he should be informed accordingly.

10. His Excellency will look next year for further and more accurate information regarding the State of Pertabghur.

11. With regard to the disputes between the State of Banswarra and the Rao of Kooshulghur, I am directed to observe that full and precise instructions were lately communicated to you in the letter from this department dated 6th instant, No. 855.

12. His Excellency quite approves of your suggestion for the erection of a bungalow at Jhoonjnoo in Jeypore, at which the Political Agent might occasionally reside.

13. Your account of the schools, roads, dispensaries, forest conservancy, and jail management in Jeypore, are full of interest, and not unworthy of commendation.

14. His Excellency is gratified to observe that the Rajah of Khettree still continues to deserve the approbation of the Government of India for his excellent administration, as adverted to by Captain Beynon in paragraphs 17 to 34 of his Report on Jeypore. The improvement in civil and criminal justice and police, the progress attained in education, and the kindness and liberality which the Rajah showed to his subjects during the late drought, are facts which are extremely commendable.

15. Your account of the internal condition of Jodhpore is deplorable, but His Excellency fears that nothing that you can say will awaken the Maharajah to a sense of his responsibilities. You should urge on him, however, the paramount necessity of appointing an efficient Dewan as successor to the late Hajee Mahomed Khan.

16. A copy of paragraph 32 in Captain Impey's Report on Marwar, concerning the laxity of Post Office arrangements in this State, has been communicated to the Postmaster General.

17. The facts noticed in paragraph 36, regarding the sale of, and income derived from, salt in Bhurtpore, have been communicated to the Financial Department for information.

18. You are requested to instruct the Political Agent to watch carefully the conduct of the Department of Public

Works under the Native gentleman who now supervises them in the above State.

19. The progress in roads, education, and the management of jails in Bhurtpore, alluded to in paragraphs 76, 79, and 93, of Captain Walter's Report, is gratifying.

20. Paragraph 118 of the same Report suggests the advantage of a light line of railway (such as that from Cawnpore to Lucknow) between Agra and Bhurtpore. An extract from the Report to the above effect has been sent to the Department of Public Works for information.

21. His Excellency will look with interest to the results of the Native administration lately established for the State of Tonk. Every endeavour should be made by the Council to reduce the State debts, which are more than 14 lakhs of Rupees. The Report from Lieutenant Blair of the past administration of this State and of its future prospects, is worthy of the commendation given to it by the Political Agent at Harrowtee.

22. If all endeavours to ameliorate the State of Boondee prove fruitless, you must, at any rate, insist that the ordinary business of the State be transacted without delay, and with attention to your requisitions.

23. You are authorized to convey to the Ruler of Jhallawar the satisfaction with which the Government of India has learnt the particulars of his creditable administration.

24. Your account of the administration of Sirohi is, all things considered, as fair and hopeful as it was reasonable to expect.

25. His Excellency has learnt with satisfaction, from Lieutenant Muir's Report, that measures are being adopted to ensure the re-occupation of waste tracts in Sirohi.

26. The detailed information contained in paragraphs 64, 65, 66, 67, and 68, regarding the progress of the works at Nusseerabad, Neemuch, and Ajmere, and other places, has been communicated to the Military Department for information.

27. Similarly, extracts of your Report (paragraphs 71 to 76 inclusive) have been forwarded for the information of the Public Works Department.

28. His Excellency has perused with great interest your general remarks regarding the administration of the Native territories; the complications which may at any

time arise between the Chiefs and their nobles; the growing independence of the latter order, and the impediments to reform and progress which exist in the various Rajpoot States. His Excellency considers the change, which you have indicated as gradually taking place, to be simply inevitable. All that the British Government and its political representatives can do, is to watch narrowly such changes; to insist that violence, anarchy, and crime shall cease; to adjust, as they arise, the various disputes occurring between a Sovereign Prince and his feudatories, and to place, if possible, their mutual relations on a sounder and better footing; to impress, at suitable times, on all the Rajahs and Chiefs the necessity of improving, modifying, and strengthening their internal administration; and to use every legitimate means within your power to convince the Rulers and their Councils that, in urging reforms, and in interfering with assistance and advice, the British Government has but one sole object in contemplation, namely, the contentment, progress, and happiness of the people, and the stability and permanence of the ancient houses which your Agency superintends.

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